Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 130 | MONDAY JUNE 1, 2009 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Elected PSS education commissioner proposed. PAGE 2

Applications open for rural energy grant funds. PAGE 3

'Scrap housing perks for top execs'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations chaired by Rep. Rosemond B. Santos recommends the passage of a bill scrapping the housing benefits—including utilities—of top elected officials if they do not live at their official residences.

See SCRAP on Page 4

YOUNGEST DANCER HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Three-year-old Paulsam Paulis, front, is the crowd favorite for being the youngest member of the C.A.B. Cultural Dance Group during a performance at the Dandan Elementary School's Cultural Day festivities on Saturday. Hundreds of students, teachers, school administrators, parents and guests joined in the fun, performances, games, food, mini car show and educational program displays at the event, which also celebrated the school's 10th anniversary.

Extended grace period for building homes on Rota, Tinian homesteads

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Families given homestead lots on Rota and Tinian now have an additional one-year grace period to build their homes, giving them up to four years instead of the current policy of three years, according to Public Lands Secretary John

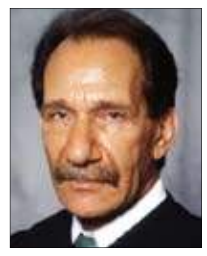
See EXTENDED on Page 4

LAOLAO BAY LEASE ISSUE

Taxpayers' lawsuit dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has dismissed a taxpayers' lawsuit against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the Department of Public Lands, and DPL Secretary John S. Del Rosario over the lease of 1.6 million square meters of prime public land to Saipan Laulau Development Inc.



Wiseman

See TAXPAYERS' on Page 4

BIG TURNOUT AT RALLY FOR GUERRERO, CAMACHO

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A large crowd showed up yesterday for the first rally of independent gubernatorial candidate Juan "Pan" Tenorio Guerrero and running mate Joseph Norita Camacho at the Civic

See BIG on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Independent gubernatorial candidate Juan Pan Tenorio Guerrero, right, and his running mate, Rep. Joseph Norita Camacho, flank former Miss CNMI Universe and journalist Vicky Guerrero Tudela who is running under their ticket for a House precinct 1 seat.

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

POLL RESULTS

What's your level of confidence that CUC will be able to meet Saipan's demand for power when the Aggreko contract ends in September?

Low	83
Somewhat low	27
Mid-range	14
Somewhat high	4
High	8

Sunday, May 31, 2009

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 5

As of May 31, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Dream Ends

Susan Boyle gave a final curtsey, a shimmy of her hips, and walked off stage, leaving the winners to perform an encore.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

Local

Elected PSS education commissioner proposed

The former NMI teachers' representative to the Board of Education, Ambrose Bennett, wants the Public School System education commissioner position be elected to make sure his or her decision for Commonwealth students has the input and will of the people.

Bennett, who was bested by Dr. Rita A. Sablan for the position last year, is also urging the Education House panel to draft a bill that would create a "governance panel" for PSS. ***See Letters to the Editor on Page 11.***

In a letter sent to the Legislature yesterday, Bennett said an elected Education Commissioner will provide vital safeguards for carrying out the policies of PSS.

"This change will ensure that the COE is always a locally-oriented person," he told lawmakers.

As existing policy stands right now, he said, the COE could be anyone from anywhere with virtually no knowledge and experience with the local society and cultural expectations.

Under his proposed governance panel, Bennett said the education commissioner will no longer serve at the board's pleasure, giving the COE more latitude to make changes and improvements without fear of the board's retaliation.

"Presently the COE is literally the board's pan. Most importantly, the people will now have a direct and final say in who is responsible for the day-to-day running of PSS. Presently the voice of the people in education is virtually 'muted' in BOE and PSS decisions," he added.

Bennett, whose term as NMI teachers' rep expired in January 2007, said the failure to separate powers within the Public School System has failed to yield the proper accountability, with no checks and balances on board decisions regarding personnel, disputes and policy compliance.

Bennett said numerous examples of how the Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education have "abused" their powers could be used to justify the creation of the governance panel.

One of the alleged abuses he cited was when the board "allowed the COE to violate her contract" and run for public office and issues about Praxis. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

Eucon confers diplomas, certificates on 23 graduates

The Eucon International School, led by president Dr. Christian Wei, presented diplomas and certificates to 23 students during Friday night's commencement and recognition ceremonies held at its Agape Auditorium.

This year's batch of graduates was composed of three students in twelfth grade, six in eighth grade, three in sixth grade, and seven Kindergarteners.

Six students were also recognized for completing the English as a Secondary Language program.

The school's highest academic honors went to Ming Yuan Zhang and Kishimoto Seiya, who were named recipients of the Principal's and Dean's awards respectively in the twelfth grade, while Xian Long Zheng and Philip Joshua Miral were top honors in the eighth grade division.

MING YUAN ZHANG
Principal's Award

KISHIMOTO SEIYA
Dean's Award

The sixth grade's highest honors were awarded to Winson Yu and Yena Choi, who were named their batch Principal's and Dean's awardees.

This year's class of Kindergarteners has three standouts: Tina Chisa Kobayashi, recipient of the President's Award;

Maxine Alexandra Rabago, Principal's Award; and Joseph Li Zhang, Dean's Award.

Twelfth grade top honor Ming Yuan Zhang said he is moving to South Carolina this Fall semester to pursue a business management course. He said it is his plan to return to Saipan if given the chance.

Kishimoto said he opted to stay for another year or two at Eucon before pursuing college elsewhere. He wants to pursue a business and liberal arts course someday.

"I just want to be prepared… for my college and I believe staying here for another year or two will help me in that preparation," he said.

Dr. Wei also recognized and awarded ribbons and medals to other outstanding students in the lower grade levels.

These include Chih Chien Cheng, Kun You and Jing Xia Lou, 11th grade; Alisa Eksmart and Edlyn Taimanao, 11th grade; Ryan Casey Iglesias and Peter Gabriel Miral, 9th grade; Zi Quiang Song and John Paul Nopia, 7th grade; Hoi Lun Yu, Ju Eun Park, and Joel Jang, 5th grade; Jualianna Patricia Perez, Calvin Magcalas, and Silina Indalecio, 4th grade; William Wallon Young, Joo Chan Park, and Theresa Zheng, 3rd grade; Gun Lee, Gelomener Miko Narciso, and David Mafnas, 2nd grade; Ao Feng Zheng, Jan Matthew Millo, Kylee Sorensen, and Matthew Robert Ong, first grade; Tian Yi Xu, Jefferey Sheu, and Joy Esther Yan, Kindergarten 4. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

U.S. & CNMI IMMIGRATION LAW

Bruce L. Mailman & Maya B. Kara

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Call for Appointment

(670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl. Derence Jack Rd.,
Garapan, Saipan

***Bruce L. Mailman** is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has provided immigration services in the CNMI since 1989*

***Maya B. Kara** is a former CNMI Acting Attorney General, Chief Legislative Counsel, Governor's and Lt. Governor's Legal Counsel and DOL Hearing Officer*

USDA accepting applications for rural energy grant funds

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Rural Business-Cooperative Service Agency of the Department of Agriculture has announced that the application period is open for FY2009 Rural Energy for America Program funds.

Established through the 2008 Farm Bill, REAP provides money to farmers and small businesses in rural areas to develop renewable energy systems, to conduct feasibility studies for these systems, and to improve energy efficiency of their businesses. All of the Northern Marianas is considered a rural area for this program.

CNMI Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan urged eligible NMI residents to apply for funding. "This program can help boost our farming industry and small business and in the long run, help us find sources of energy that are less destructive to the environment."

The funds are available in the form of grants, loan guarantees, or a combination of grant and loan guarantee. Grants are available for up to 25 percent of a project's cost, not to exceed $250,000 for energy efficiency improvements and $500,000 for renewable energy systems. Guaranteed loan-only requests and combination loan and grant requests cannot exceed 75 percent of eligible project costs.

Farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses that demonstrate financial need and are located in a rural area are eligible for REAP funds. However, farmers and ranchers must receive more than 50% of their income from their farming business and entities applying as a small business must meet the definition based on Small Business Administration guidelines. ***(PR)***

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Rock Fish (Swim Tomato Salsa)
TUESDAY - Chicken Breast Pot au Feu
WEDNESDAY - Yosenabe
THURSDAY - Fresh Herbed Chicken Breast
FRIDAY - Salmon Broil Miso Flavor with Shiitake Mushroom
Including: Hot Vegetables, Tofu, Soup, Salad Bar & MORE....
June 1 to 5, 2009
Monday to Friday
11am to 1:30pm
Reservations are required due to limited seating's
Please Call 234-6414
ext. 1547-1548 or 233-6414
FREE VALET SERVICE
FIESTA Resort & SPA SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

Saipan Tribune Make it your DAILY habit.

Customers First
TRIPLE J
SIZZLING SUMMER
Gas & Grocery Extravaganza!
Up to $1,500 in Gas and Groceries with every new car purchase!
$1,000 FREE GAS + $500 FREE GROCERIES
UP TO 25 MPG
SUZUKI GRAND VITARA
"Best Buy!"
CONSUMER GUIDE BEST BUY
HYUNDAI AZERA
"Top Rated Sedan"
edmunds.com
mazda CX-9
NORTH AMERICAN TRUCK OF THE YEAR
$500 FREE GAS + $500 FREE GROCERIES
UP TO 30 MPG
mazda3i "Editor's Most Wanted"
edmunds.com
UP TO 23 MPG
B4000
IntelliChoice Excellent Value and Best in Class Award Winner
2008
UP TO 27 MPG
mazda5 "Top Rated Minivan"
edmunds.com
UP TO 25 MPG
MITSUBISHI MOTORS OUTLANDER
"Fuel Economy and All-Wheel Drive for a Reasonable Price"
AutoWeek
UP TO 25 MPG
HYUNDAI TUCSON
NHTSA 5-STAR CRASH SAFETY RATING
Customers First
TRIPLE J MOTORS
Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau
234-7133 / 235-7133 / 234-3051 / 234-5397
mazda SUZUKI HYUNDAI MITSUBISHI MOTORS
NADA Sales Professional
SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE SALES PROFESSIONALS
YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM, ASK FOR US BY NAME!
RANDY BEN MERCI FELIX
*On approved credit. (O.A.C.) Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for details. **EPA estimated hwy mpg.

BIG

From Page 1

Center in Susupe.

Guerrero, Camacho, and some supporters said an estimated 2,000 people attended the rally from morning until in the afternoon.

"It is a very big turnout. I think the community is ready to see changes in our government," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* at the rally.

"This is just the beginning. We're still going out there, visiting people in their homes and we are talking about the issues, presenting ourselves to the people. We are offering them a change from the same old tired politics," said Camacho, who is currently the House floor leader.

People began arriving at the Civic Center at 9am. At 10:30am, Guerrero and Camacho were joined by supporters to line up from one end of the Civic Center to the other to wave to passing motorists.

After 30 minutes, food and drinks were distributed and, as people ate, Guerrero and Camacho spoke to the crowd about their vision for the Commonwealth.

Guerrero emphasized that their campaign "is not promising government jobs to people, and not promising contracts to companies," but that "the promise we do make is to serve our community. Although we don't promise you a government job, we promise to help you find a job. We don't promise government contracts to companies, but we do promise to make the Commonwealth a better and easier place to do business. We promise an open and transparent administration and stand willing to explain and defend our actions and decisions, and do away with back room dealings."

The two later introduced House candidates who will be running under their ticket: former Miss CNMI Universe and journalist Vicky Guerrero Tudela for Precinct I and Fredrick Peters Deleon Guerrero for Precinct 5.

The event included food, drinks, a number of bands, cultural dance performances, and speeches in support of the candidates by community leaders from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan. Young children also enjoyed the day with a bounce house, a coloring booth, a number of other games, as well as hotdogs, ice keki, and popcorn provided by the candidates and their supporters. Organizers also distributed 1,200 T-shirts and hats.

Some 102 picnic tables that were put up under the tents were filled to capacity; some supporters also put up picnic tables under the trees.

Guerrero was pleased with the turnout. "Since this early morning, we have seen people come and go. Our idea was to bring not just the voters but the family together—have the family enjoy and bond with other families."

Camacho thanked those who helped prepare the food, set up the tents, and organized the activities for the children. "The number of people here today exceeded our expectations, and we are humbled by this massive show of support for our campaign," he added.

Guerrero said they are preparing to do the same rally on Tinian and Rota after the GOP primary.

More work

On Saipan, Guerrero said, they continue to do house to house campaigns, holding private meetings with people and individual families to answer their concerns and questions.

He noted that a lot of the people's concerns are about the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Retirement Fund, and health care.

"And this is something that we need to work on and make it more strong," Guerrero stressed.

Camacho echoed this, saying, "We're obviously working hard. …We are not doing it the old political way of getting up there, shouting and screaming and making empty promises."

He said they are talking to people, listening to their important issues and reaching them as to what they believe are the needed changes.

Guerrero said that, after the GOP primary, they will invite some of the candidates who are running independent to join their ticket.

"We're open. We're running independent. You want to come and join us, and seek votes from the same vote source that we are hosting…that's the smart way," he said.

Former police official and Representative Claudio Norita is the tandem's campaign chairman. Former CUC board chair Frank Guerrero served as yesterday's event chairman.

The emcees at the rally were Gordon Marciano and LJ Castro. The entertaining bands were Joe McCarrel from Guam, Wellipal Band, Bula Sativa, Ben Ayuyu, Local Boys, and Maggie Naputi. The dancing groups were the Inatuas, Teka Naha Nui, and Island Warriors.

TAXPAYERS'

From Page 1

In his decision issued Friday, Associate Judge David A. Wiseman described the case as an "improper" exercise of a lawsuit by a taxpayer and should therefore be dismissed.

Wiseman said he is bound to adhere to the plain language of the Constitution and, without the expenditure of public funds, the plain language of Article 10 Section 9 does not grant standing to plaintiffs Ramon M. San Nicolas, Vicente C. Aldan, Tarsicio Olopai, and Juan M. Deleon Guerrero.

"Further, there is no clear, binding authority which has expanded the scope of Section 9 and has granted standing to a taxpayer plaintiff when no taxpayer dollars are at issue," said the judge.

Section 9 states that "a taxpayer may bring an action against the government or one of its instrumentalities in order to enjoin [stop] the expenditure of public funds for other than public purposes or for a breach of fiduciary duty."

Wiseman granted the motion to dismiss filed by Fitial, DPL, and Del Rosario. He also denied the plaintiffs' motion for default judgment.

According to the lawsuit, the CNMI will lose a minimum of $16.6 million for the full 40-year term of the lease agreement. The plaintiffs, through lawyer Edward Manibusan, challenged the legality of the lease, saying its terms are not commercially reasonable, are contrary to public interest, and are in violation of Article 11 of the CNMI Constitution.

The CNMI government, through DPL and Del Rosario, leased the LaoLao Bay Golf Resort to Saipan Laulau Development Inc. on Dec. 6, 2007. SLDI is owned by Kumho Holdings (H.K.) Co. Ltd., the parent company of Asiana Airlines.

'Disagreement on policy'

Fitial, DPL, and DelRosario had argued that Article 10 Section 9 of the Constitution does not grant the plaintiffs standing to sue and that their case is an improper taxpayer's lawsuit that seeks to second guess the judgment of government officials.

The three, represented by government lawyer Brad Huesman, also argued that the plaintiffs fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted because they mischaracterized the lease and misstated the facts.

Huesman pointed out that the lawsuit does not allege a breach of duty—which is required to support a taxpayer lawsuit—but rather a disagreement on policy.

Huesman said the lawsuit will also deprive Kumho of due process.

Breach of fiduciary duties

The plaintiffs, through Manibusan, said the motion to dismiss must be denied because they have successfully pleaded a prima facie claim for breach of fiduciary duties against a public official charged with administering a trust.

Manibusan argued that Section 9 and CNMI case law grant taxpayers standing to sue government officials for breaches of fiduciary duties even where there is no expenditure of public funds.

Manibusan argued that the political question doctrine does not bar resolution of this case and that defendants are not entitled to qualified immunity.

In his ruling, Wiseman said qualified immunity is not applicable and does not bar this lawsuit, although not for the reasons presented by either lawyer.

Second, Wiseman said, neither the plain language of the Constitution nor any case law specifically grants taxpayers standing to sue where there is no expenditure of public funds.

On the default issue, the judge said the defendants responded to the lawsuit in a timely manner and that default judgment is not proper.

SCRAP

From Page 1

House Bill 16-167, introduced by Vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), amends Public Law 2-4 to provide government housing for the governor, lieutenant governor, Senate president and House speaker for the duration of their term in office.

As practiced, utilities are provided to these houses and the costs of such utilities are paid for by the CNMI government. However, P.L. 2-4 does not clearly state whether or not such utility benefits apply to an official who chooses to live in his or her private home instead of in government housing.

H.B. 16-167 HD 3 clarifies that if an official opts to live in his or her private residence, that official is not eligible to receive housing benefits, including payment for utilities.

"The Commonwealth stands to save much needed funds by the enactment of House Bill No. 16-167, HDs," said the House JGO Committee in its May 15 report. The report is supported by three of five members—Santos and Reps. Joseph C. Reyes and Edwin P. Aldan.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Senate President Pete P. Reyes and House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios are not living in government-provided housing, but in their private homes.

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said yesterday the Fitial administration supports a reasonable policy that would attract and maintain the best chief executives in view of what is standard and customary benefits and compensation in other jurisdictions while also considering the CNMI's limited resources.

The issue arose in the wake of findings that former Lt. Gov. Timothy Villagomez's utility bills soared by several hundred percent after the CNMI government began paying for his CUC expenses.

The original proposal was to scrap the utility benefits once an official chooses to live in his or her private home but during deliberation, the committee deemed that consideration should be given to such an official.

There are occasions when such an official is required to host visiting officials at his or her home, and will inevitably increase utility consumption. This incidental expense is a direct result of the official's role as an elected official and therefore should be borne by the CNMI government.

The committee then amended the bill to provide utilities allowance of up to $500 a month when the officials opts to reside in his or her private house.

UPCOMING BRIEFINGS, COMMITTEE HEARINGS

- The House JGO Committee will meet with bank representatives at 9am today in the House chamber to review proposed new rules for mortgage foreclosure proceedings.
- At 10am in the Senate chamber, the Public Utilities and Infrastructure Committee chaired by Rep. Tina Sablan will have a briefing with the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. on the stipulated order for water and wastewater.
- On Wednesday at 9am, the House JGO Committee will hold a public hearing on House Bill 16-26, which aims to regulate mixed martial arts on Saipan.

EXTENDED

From Page 1

Del Rosario.

"This is premised on the fact that both Tinian and Rota are [geographically] situated outside the business center of Saipan and consumers, including homesteaders, must deal with the added cost of shipping amidst the persistent hard times," Del Rosario told *Saipan Tribune* on Saturday.

The four-year grace period begins when homesteaders are shown their lots.

Homestead applicants on Saipan, however, have to wait a little longer until the global economy returns to normalcy and once the large number of home foreclosures that include homestead lots is dealt with, the DPL official added.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said yesterday he welcomes the extended grace period given the current state of the economy.

"It will ease the burden of homestead owners. But I was hoping they would give a six-year grace period," he said in a phone interview.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Del Rosario went to Rota on Friday to oversee the distribution of 144 homestead lots, and not 150 as earlier reported.

"The governor participated by delivering a statement explaining the lifting of the moratorium for Tinian and Rota and that homesteaders should 'use it wisely or lose it.' One major policy announcement he made was the extension of the normal grace period to build the first family home from three to four years," Del Rosario added.

Hofschneider echoed the governor's call for homeowners to use their property wisely.

He said when he himself was granted a homestead lot on Carolinas Heights on Tinian in 1992, there was no decent road, as well as utilities in the area but he said he started developing his homestead lot.

"Permit holders can improvise. At that time, I was given three years to develop it. Even at that time, there were homestead owners who neglected what was given to them. Permit holders should be responsible for taking care of their property," he said.

On April 31, DPL distributed 429 homestead lots on Tinian.

About a month later or on May 29, DPL distributed 144 homestead lots on Rota, where there were over 550 applicants.

The DPL secretary said of the 144 lots prepared for issuance, 82 of over 550 applicants pulled their lots via lottery for the Finafa homestead subdivision.

"More applicants would be given their lots upon completion of their applications. Most are off island in schools or moved elsewhere like Guam in search of jobs, among others," he said.

Del Rosario said DPL would be conducting the survey of the Finafa subdivision, including the One-Stop regulatory aspects, after which it would jointly address and resolve the building of basic infrastructure on both Tinian and Rota.

Saipan homestead applicants

There are over 3,400 homestead applicants on Saipan, but Del Rosario said these applicants "would have to wait a little longer until the global economy returns to normalcy."

"This is because of the crash of the housing industry across the country. Moreover, we also must deal with the rather large number of home foreclosures here that includes homestead lots. This phenomenon hasn't sat well with the banking institution here," Del Rosario said.

The only thing that DPL could do now is begin preparing the Koblerville and Capital Hill homestead sites in hopes of finding creative ways of financing new homes for those who qualify, the DPL secretary said.

"But there's also the issue of disposing of applicants who don't qualify for housing loans. How do we deal with them in order to ensure that they also live in safe and sanitary homes? I figure that about half of the 3,400 applicants won't qualify for real estate loans," he said.

Some community members earlier raised concern that DPL will be distributing homestead lots in Marpi, where land clearing of some 60 hectares of public lands is currently being done by Ampro under contract with DPL. Concerned citizens said the area will damage the scenic area, and that the project may have violated environmental regulations and laws for lack of a major siting permit.

DPL, however, repeatedly said nobody has been promised a homestead lot in the area, adding that the priority is to clean up the site of unexploded World War II ordnance. Since the start of the clearing, over 2,000 lbs of war ordnance have been detonated, most of them from the ongoing land clearing.

War bereaved families end three-day pilgrimage

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A large delegation of the Micronesian Repatriation Association and the Okinawa War Bereaved Family United Association completed their three-day pilgrimage to the CNMI last week, visiting war memorial sites on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Inos

The 254 participants, who arrived on May 27 via two charter planes, was the biggest number so far.

They were here to participate in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the groups' annual pilgrimage to Saipan and the 32nd to Tinian.

Most of them were born in Micronesia but were repatriated to Okinawa during World War II.

The group gathered at the Last Command Post in Marpi for the memorial service on the first day of their trip. They then attended a Friendship Night with government officials at the Hafa Adai Hotel.

The group was led by Okinawa-ken chair Choken Ginoza and two top government officials, Miwako Ueyonahara, Deputy Director General in charge of Welfare Planning, and Urasoe City Mayor Gima Mitsuo.

Local officials who graced the occasion were Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela, and some members of the Legislature.

Inos thanked them for continuing their sacred tradition of visiting Saipan and Tinian to remember "our shared history and honor the memory of friends and family members who lived and died here during the World War II era."

Inos noted that for more than 30 years, this group has been faithfully visiting both islands to pay respects to those who lost their lives in the battle for the Pacific and to pray for peace.

"I commend all of you for your enduring fidelity in maintaining this important annual tradition," Inos said.

Inos said much has changed on the islands in the last 40 years but "I think you can still find a sense of the peace and tranquility that existed here even before the war, while still enjoying our modern amenities."

He also thanked Pacific Development Inc. for its effort in fostering strong intercultural ties between the people of Okinawa and the CNMI.

"Chairman Choken Ginoza, I want to especially thank you for your 40 years of service to the Association and to the people of the CNMI," he said.

Ginoza has been the chairman of the group for the past 40 years. He has already signified his intention to retire but no replacement has been named yet for the post.

In his message, Japan's consul to the CNMI Tsutomu Higuchi expressed appreciation to the people of Saipan for extending a warm welcome to the Okinawa group.

"I thought of the great number of people who lost their lives in the war and of their bereaved families. I felt an endless sorrow and grieved for those sacrifices. The Memorial service was really significant not only to pray for the peaceful rest of the departed souls but also to make a pledge for eternal peace," he said.

$300K AmeriCorps grant added to stream of federal dollars for CNMI

WASHINGTON, D.C.— CNMI Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan announced yesterday that the Public School System has received a grant of over $300,000 from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The grant will go to a PSS AmeriCorps program that provides peer-to-peer mentoring, tutoring, and counseling sessions for at-risk students.

Sablan

"Serving in AmeriCorps is a wonderful way to contribute to our community and meet local educational needs," said Sablan. "Those who are doing this work should be congratulated for their service and their dedication to our community.

"We are also very proud of the Public School System for putting together their successful application for AmeriCorps funds and we look forward to hearing about the experiences of students and volunteers alike."

In addition to this grant, the Corporation for National and Community Service is setting aside funding to provide Education Awards for the AmeriCorps members serving in this program. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members will receive an education award of $4,725, which they can use to pay for college or to repay student loans.

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages in service to meet critical national needs in education, public safety, environmental, and other areas. Its 75,000 members serve in more than 4,000 non-profit and faith-based organizations across the country. Since 1994, more than 574,000 AmeriCorps members have provided 718 million hours of service through the program.

Last month, President Obama signed into law the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, a bill that will increase opportunities for Americans to serve and strengthen social innovation and volunteer generation in America's non-profit sector, enabling even more Americans to give back to their communities. The Northern Marianas Congressman was one of the 12 original cosponsors of the bill in the U.S. House of Representatives. ***(PR)***

Are you kidding me?
$77.00
For a complete Pair of Glass?

No Joke!
at Marianas Eye Institute
- Select Frames & Prescriptions
- One-year warranty
- $127.00 for Progresive "no-line" bifocals

235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com
* Shave and haircut not included.

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

New LOW Roaming Rates to the US
Bring Your IT&E Wireless Phone With You and Roam with America's Largest and Most Reliable Network!
as low as 35¢ per minute*
Text Messaging (Outgoing in US & to CNMI/GUAM) 10¢
Incoming Text is FREE!
NEW! Data Roaming 1¢ per KB**
Available on BlackBerry™, AirCard or Data Capable Wireless Phone

Come in to activate your IT&E Wireless Phone or AirCard for US Data Roaming Today.
*some conditions apply • calls within US • calls to CNMI/Guam 41¢ Other locations 35¢ plus LD rate.
**Unlimited local data & BlackBerry™ do not include roaming. 1¢ per kb applies.
verizon
IT&E
Life in Motion
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net

Sablan named GCA valedictorian and Eagle awardee

Grace Christian Academy conferred its highest and most prestigious recognition, the Eagle Award, on Keith Sablan, who was also named the class valedictorian during Friday night's commencement rites at the school auditorium.

The Eagle Award is given to students who demonstrate excellence in academics, citizenship, and Christian character.

No salutatorian and honorable mentions were recognized, except for Johnny Aldan Jr., who was named Eagle Award runner-up.

Sablan, who led this year's graduating class of 18 students, was also awarded the highest grade point average in his grade level and a number of character awards and participation in numerous school activities and competitions.

KEITH SABLAN
Valedictorian
Eagle Award

"For over four years, I've been trying to work hard to make my family proud of me…and I think my hard work has paid of. I am now so excited and I am ready to conquer my future," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Keith Sablan is the oldest son of Benita and Joseph Sablan.

In August, he will be leaving Saipan to pursue college at the Hawaii Pacific University, where he was accorded a full tuition scholarship for his medicine course.

In his message, Sablan dedicated his awards to his late grandmother, Maria Deleon Guerrero Demapan, who had promised him four years ago that she will be sitting on the front row on his graduation day.

"My hard work has always produced the biggest smile on her face and I am sure she is smiling at this very moment as I stand before you," Sablan said.

Keith's father, Joseph Sablan, said he is truly proud of his son's achievements.

"We're very happy and very proud of our son! We just hope that he will continue strive for the best in his education and we're always here to support him," the father said, describing his son as "silent, studious, and hard working."

GCA Principal Faith Dela Rosa and Rev. Raymond Kinsela also recognized consistent honor roll awardees John Conti and Dae Won Jeon; consistent principal's list awardee, Da Hea Hong; and perfect attendance awardee, Ernest Jay Javier.

Students with highest GPA per grade level included Da Bin No, 9th grade; Maria Allora Ermero, 10th grade; and Jim Cedrick Libut, 11th grade.

Character awards were given to Ernest Jay Javier, Da Hae Hong, Johnny Sablan, and John Conti. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

O'Connor, Schweiger are top GCA junior high graduates

Fourteen-year-old Kallie Ann O'Connor and Anastasia Rose Schweiger emerged as the top junior high school graduates of Grace Christian Academy, earning them the highest academic honors in this year's commencement rites held Thursday night.

O'Connor, the daughter of Rowena and Robert O'Connor, was named class valedictorian and recipient of a number of special awards, including the school's prestigious Eagle Award.

"It feels really good! All my hard work finally paid off," she told *Saipan Tribune* about receiving the awards.

A consistent honor student since Kindergarten, Kallie Ann was also active in almost all academic and extracurricular programs, including the National Junior Forensic Leagues, the Honor Society, the Lincoln Douglas Debate, forensic competitions, and school contests like the science fair.

Kallie Ann will be moving to California for her high school.

This year's salutatorian was Anastasia Rose Schweiger, the daughter of Rose and Tom Schweiger. She also received a number of special awards, including the Eagle Award nominee.

"I feel so happy and proud and I thank my family for their support!" she said.

GCA also recognized Abigail Anne V. Dimaano as this year's honorable mention; Jimaela Anne V. Ham, second honorable mention; and Kahra B. Atalig, third honorable mention.

ANN O'CONNOR
Valedictorian
Eagle Award

ANASTASIA ROSE SCHWEIGER
Salutatorian

A total of 37 junior high students were promoted to high school in front of over a hundred people at the school's chapel.

GCA also recognized students who brought honor to their school, including participants in the Mock Trial Competition, Geography Bee, Thespian Society, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Spelling Bee, Math Counts, and sports competition here and off-island. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

Kim, Lee are MCS' top graduates

Mount Carmel School bestowed its highest academic honors on Min Kyung Kim and Soo Yoon Lee, who were named as this year's class valedictorian and salutatorian respectively.

In ceremonies held Saturday at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral, 38 students were conferred their high school diplomas before hundreds of spectators and guests.

MIN KYUNG KIM
Valedictorian

SOO YOON LEE
Salutatorian

Min Kyung Kim was also the recipient of six other special recognitions: the President's Award for Meritorious Achievement, President's Award for Educational Excellence, English Language Arts Award, and Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies awards.

Min Kyung is the only child of Il Nam Kim and Eun Hee Jeon. This fall semester, she will be moving to New York to pursue Business and Managerial Economics, with plans to use this in helping the CNMI in the near future.

Named second top graduate was Soo Yoon Lee, who also received other special recognitions, including the President's Award for Educational Excellence, and English Language Arts, Mathematics, Theology, and Speech awards.

Lee is the daughter of In Kyu Lee and Gwang Hee Chu.

"I'm going to the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor this fall, and I'm going to major in economics I'm very much interested in international business and marketing, because I feel enthusiastic about globalization," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lee also plans to go to graduate school in Harvard after finishing her undergraduate.

In her message, she recalled her first year on Saipan where she admitted not knowing any English besides the alphabet and some simple words like yes and no.

"Seven years have passed… and now I am standing here today as a proud graduate of MCS," she said.

MCS president Margaret C. Dela Cruz, along with the school's officials and Bishop Tomas A. Camacho, awarded the top six graduating students with honors: Chiaki Hirosawa, Judy Ann A. Santos, Erika K. Johnson, A Ram Yoo, Jiana P. Camacho, and Pauline L. Cielo.

This year's recipient of the Bishop Tomas A. Camacho Christian Service Award was Jiana P. Camacho while the Governor's Leadership Award was bestowed on Noelle C. Ada.

Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona was the event's keynote speaker. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

YOUR PREPAID DOLLAR JUST GOT BIGGER!
For only $1 a day you get
Unlimited Local Text
Unlimited Nights & Weekends
Unlimited Push-To-Talk
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ONE DOLLAR
$1/day Prepaid
Get phones starting at only $49.99!
UNLIMITED TALK, TEXT & PTT ALL DAY & ALL NIGHT
for $15 a week. Enrollment via *53 required.
Local calls and text only.
*Local calls and text only. Some conditions apply.
iCONNECT
www.iconnectsaipan.com
Saipan - Guam Office 888.8888

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be holding its next general membership meeting on June 3 at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom. Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for general public. Recipients of the 2009 Educational Scholarship Fund awards will be presented. Chamber president Jim Arenovski will also brief members on his recent trip to Washington, D.C. The group will also hear from a representative of the U.S. Census Bureau about the 2007 Economic Census of the CNMI. ***(SCC)***

GTC Elementary festival on Saturday

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary will be holding its 2nd Annual Cultural and Health Festival on Saturday June 6, 2009, from 9am to 3pm at the GTC School field in San Roque. There will be activities and game booths, a program, information booths, exciting cultural demonstrations and fun entertainment, including the Binadu Idol competition and the Dancing with the Binadu competition. ***(PR)***

MHS calendar of activities

- June 3-4: Seniors exams
- June 5: Last day for seniors
- June 8-9: Senior graduation practice
- June 10: Seniors Awards Ceremony, 4pm, at MHS Gym Underclassmen exams (3rd and 4th periods)
- June 11: Graduation ceremony, 4pm, at MHS Gym, students released at 12pm
- June 12: Underclassmen exams (1st and 2nd periods)
- June 15: End of 4th Quarter, last day for underclassmen
- Sept. 8: First day of classes (students return to school)

For questions and concerns, contact 237-3206. ***(PR)***

2 convenient locations to better serve you!
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030
HARDT EYE CLINIC
Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

JOETEN MOTORS SERVICE SPECIAL

GO MORE MILES.

THE WORKS
FUEL SAVER PACKAGE

- Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic Blend Oil and filter change
- Rotate and inspect four tires
- Check air and cabin air filters
- Inspect brake system
- Test battery
- Check belts and hoses
- Top of all fluids
- Perform multi-point inspection

SAVE $9.00

STARTING AT $80.95

Prices may vary with make, model and year. See Service Advisors for details.

GO WITH THE EXPERTS.

Joeten Motors
POWERED BY YOU

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8 AM – 6 PM
SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. 234-5562

Smart Choice

How's CUC doing on stipulated orders?

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public Utilities and Infrastructure Committee of the Saipan Local Legislative delegation wants new information on how the government's utilities agency is complying with the requirements of the federal stipulated orders that require it to comply with water and wastewater regulations within a set deadline.

Rep. Tina Sablan, chair of the PUIC, has invited CUC executive director Tony Muña and deputy director Bruce Megarr to present to lawmakers the status of its compliance with the standards. The committee has scheduled the discussion and presentation on Monday at the Senate chamber.

"Mr. Muna and Mr. Megarr will be providing an update on the progress CUC has made thus far toward compliance with the federal stipulated order for water and wastewater," Sablan's memorandum stated.

Last February, Megarr delivered a similar presentation to lawmakers and Monday's discussion will be an update on CUC work.

"The stipulated orders were formally entered by the federal court and the clock has begun ticking for CUC to begin meeting deadlines required under the orders," Sablan said. The next immediate deadline for certain deliverables is June 11.

She described the presentation as "critical" to the status of CUC.

Muña confirmed yesterday that he will attend the presentation.

CUC earlier disclosed that in order to comply with all the stipulated orders, there's a need to restructure the current water and wastewater rates to sustain operations. The current wastewater rate was set in 1987 while the water rate was established in 1995.

In Fiscal Year 2008, the division's revenue was at $6.3 million compared to expenditures of $9.9 million.

The stipulated orders were formally entered by the federal court in March. The orders represent the agreement between the CNMI and the Environmental Protection Agency, based upon the requirements set forth in the Clean Air Act and Safe Drinking Water Act. The stipulated order also provides a roadmap for providing improved water and sewer services in the CNMI.

It has been estimated that CUC will need $3.2 million for the first year of complying with the new mandates.

CUC is faced with serious consequences if federal codes and standards are not met, as stipulated in the order.

This may result in contempt charges and receivership, fines, and penalties associated with not meeting the deliverables.

Bank of Hawaii
is proud to have earned the ranking
of America's #1 Performing Bank.

–Banking's Top Performers, 2008
American Bankers Association *Banking Journal*

Recently, the experts at the American Bankers Association *Banking Journal* completed their annual performance rankings of financial institutions. And of all the publicly traded large financial institutions in the U.S., Bank of Hawaii Corporation earned the #1 spot as the Top Performing Bank for 2008. It's an achievement we at Bank of Hawaii are proud and honored to accept on behalf of our 2,500 employees. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, Bank of Hawaii has not only earned this tremendous recognition, but something much more important: your trust and your confidence. To read the ABA *Banking Journal* article in its entirety, please visit boh.com/safe.

Bank of Hawaii

©2009 Bank of Hawaii boh.com FDIC

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

JUNE 1, 1999

Proposed bill makes deportation easier

A single conviction of misdemeanor in the Commonwealth or court sentence on charges of prostitution and illegal drugs will soon be grounds for deportation of foreign workers under a proposed legislation that has drawn support from lawmakers. The House Committee on Labor and Immigration has completed review of the measure offered by Rep. Oscar M. Babauta to put teeth into existing deportation laws in view of conflicting interpretation between the Superior Court and the Attorney General's office. In a report adopted by the House of Representatives, the committee said the proposed bill will enhance safety and security for local residents, who have expressed concerns over rising crime incidents on the island involving guest workers.

US plans $80M repair in Andersen Air Base

The US government will undertake improvements in its key Pacific military facility next year, pumping in over $80 million for the expansion of a school and a fuel storage at the Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, an air force commander said yesterday. The constructions at Andersen demonstrates the facility's importance in Washington's defense network in the Asia-Pacific region, especially at this time when the US military is engaged in the war in Kosovo, as well as the growing tension with China. Col. Mark J.D. Gehri, commander of the 36th Air Base Wing based in Guam, said improvements will cover expansion of the existing school inside the base to better serve the children of enlisted men. This alone would cost $44 million, he said.

JUNE 1, 2000

Campaign vs abortion

In what could be the beginning of an aggressive campaign against abortion in the CNMI, religious leaders from various denominations mapped out plans yesterday to counter renewed debate on the controversial issue. Bishop Tomas A. Camacho said the meeting was meant to discuss the need to continuously educate the people on the moral issue of abortion. "I believe that majority of our people here still believe in the sanctity of human life. We need to continue to be vocal in the teachings of Christ and the Church," he a group of church leaders. The planned series of information campaign will culminate in a big pro-life rally scheduled for Jan. 22, 2001. A planning committee was formed with Pastor Ray Kinsella of Grace Christian Church as chair of the group.

House joins protest vs dumping of toxic waste

The House of Representatives yesterday joined the protest against dumping of toxic U.S. military wastes in the Pacific region as it expressed concern over its environmental and health impact on the islands. Members adopted a resolution during a special session calling on the U.S. government to properly dispose these poisonous chemicals to prevent pollution of the earth, particularly its oceans. The move came in the wake of a decision by the Department of Defense to store polychlorinated biphenyl-contaminated waste from a U.S. military base in Japan on Wake Island.

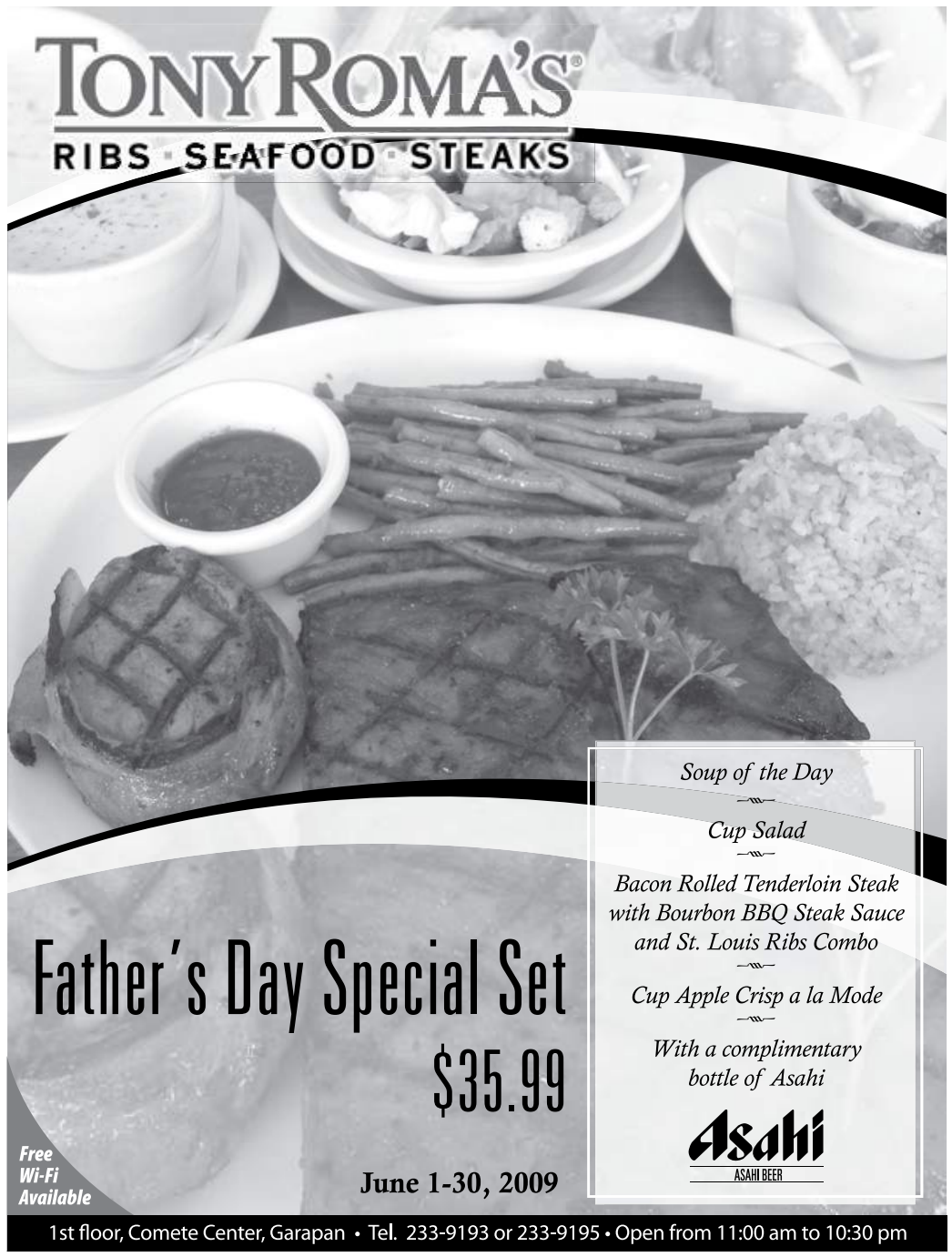
JUNE 1, 2001

'Identify target markets'

Regional tourism experts yesterday encouraged local players in the local travel industry to invest in studies that will identify which markets should the Northern Marianas aggressively pursue. Research shared by a top-brass Japan Travel Bureau official during yesterday's CNMI 2001 Tourism Summit revealed that data on Japanese travelers' characteristics proved very useful in the travel industry's promotional efforts. Yoshio Koteda, JTB Corp. General Manager for International Relations, Planning and Marketing, quoted studies detailing Japan's middle-aged and elderly citizens as the country's most ardent travelers.

CNMI improves emergency response teams' capability

The Emergency Management Office yesterday turned over $10,000 worth of new hazardous material handling equipment to the Department of Public Safety's Division of Fire. That procurement includes four Level "A" gas-tight suits, used to handle the worst kinds of chemical spills this islands could ever expect, according to Emergency Management Office Director Greg De Leon Guerrero. The EMO director said handling of hazardous materials has four levels—A, B, C and D. Of the four levels, Level "A" is the highest and most dangerous.



MICRONESIAN BROKERS (CNMI), INC.

GREAT CATCH!

Redeem your Lucky 7 Passport at your favorite Shell station today and receive one (1) can each of Waioka™ Sardines in Tomato Sauce and Waioka™ Solid Light Meat Tuna. Don't let hunger get the best of you! Offer good until June 4 or while supplies last.

Stop in to Shell today to reel in this great offer!

made to move

A WORLD OF CHOICES!
Don't gas up without it!

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 130

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Lynn A. Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

US needs a plan to reduce debt

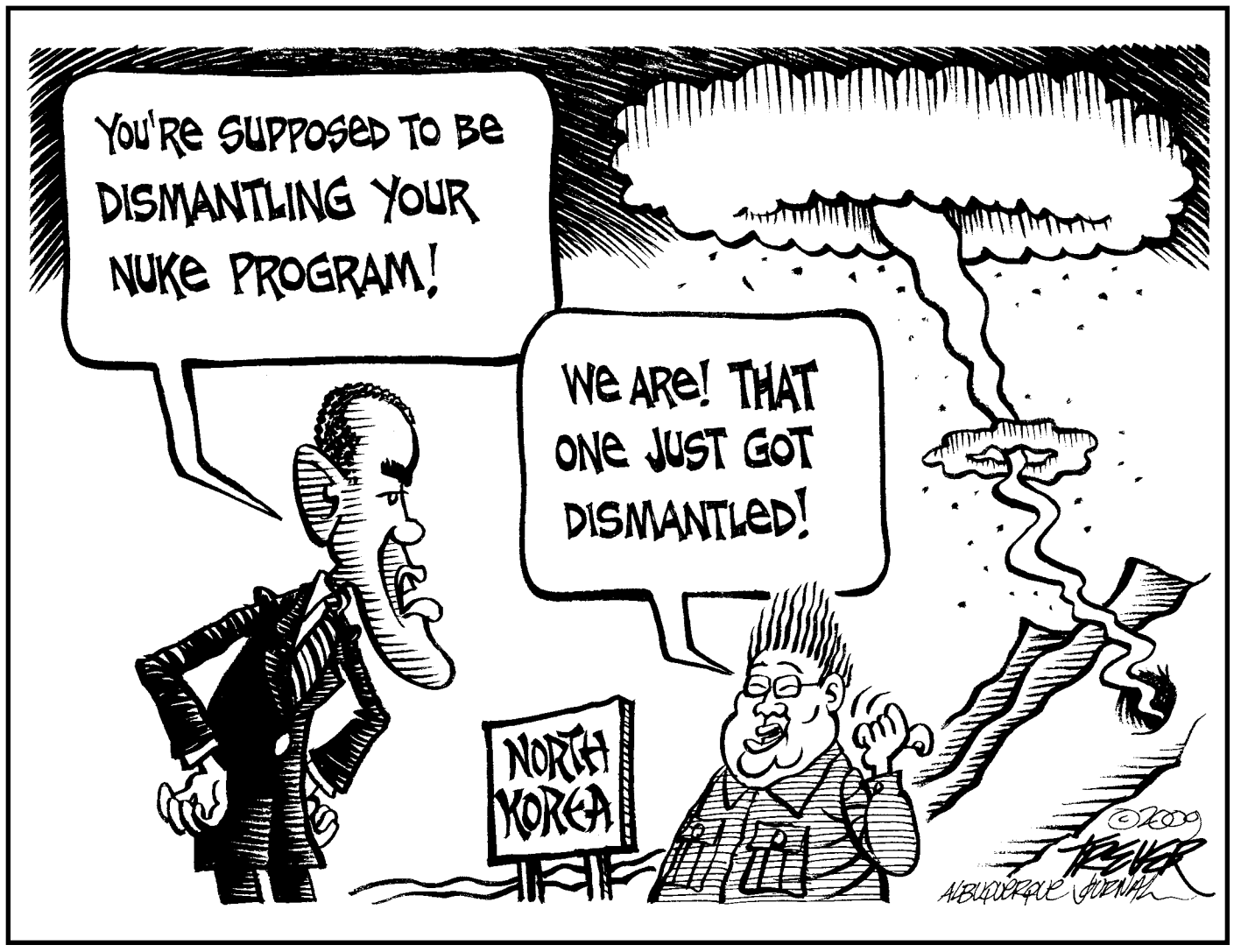
The announcement by Standard and Poor's that Britain could lose its triple-A credit rating because of excessive government debt also serves as a loud and clear warning to the U.S. government, which is piling on debt by the trillions. Certainly, accumulating debt has to be part of the immediate economic-repair strategy. It is borrowed funds that will stimulate the economy and compensate for the deleveraging of the household sector. It costs money — and lots of it — to fix the banking and housing sectors. But just as important as borrowing in the short run is a credible plan for bringing debt levels down once a recovery has taken hold. On that front, the country is dangerously behind.

The chance of a U.S. debt downgrade is actually quite slim, since it is hard to envision a scenario under which the government would default. The United States borrows in its own currency, so debt payments would not bankrupt the country because of currency swings, as they can elsewhere. The United States enjoys the advantage of providing the world's reserve currency, and the recent flight to quality has helped keep domestic interest rates low. Though it is generally not discussed in polite company, the government would monetize the debt, by printing money, before it actually defaulted. Yet the fact is that credit default swaps, which are used to insure against country defaults, have risen in price for U.S. debt as concerns over ongoing borrowing needs have mounted — not a reassuring sign.

The prudent way to manage the debt is to spell out what policies will be enacted to close the deficit once the economy is strong enough. So far that is not happening. The Congressional Budget Office projects that while debt held by the public would be 56 percent of gross domestic product a decade from now under current law, under President Obama's budget it would rise to 82 percent. The president's budget, which includes more than $2 trillion in new tax cuts and nearly that much in new spending increases, relies on $9 trillion in borrowing over the next decade. This is simply unaffordable.

The administration plans to turn attention to the longer-term budget mess next year. But a scheme to get a handle on the debt cannot be delayed. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and Office of Management and Budget Director Peter Orszag seemed to send that message when, after the S&P news, they both emphasized the need to do more on closing the budget gap. Until the administration gets specific, financial and currency markets probably will remain skittish, and no economic recovery will be on solid footing.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post


YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DISMANTLING YOUR NUKE PROGRAM!
WE ARE! THAT ONE JUST GOT DISMANTLED!
NORTH KOREA
©2009 TREVER
ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

Pyongyang and the PSI

By DONALD KIRK
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

The confrontation on the Korean peninsula gives every appearance of reaching critical mass. The war clouds wafting from North Korea carry the danger of a violent episode if not of a second Korean War. Clearly North Korea—or rather Kim Jong Il and the ruling elite—is writhing under condemnation by the U.N. Security Council and the world over its nuclear tests and missile launches.

The question now is what the United States and others can do besides talk of "consequences," as Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has warned, and of "saber-rattling," as the White House said dismissively.

The standoff lends itself to choices that are potentially dangerous, unreliable—and possibly disastrous. One of these is the much-discussed Proliferation Security Initiative, or PSI, which empowers participants to try to blockade or at least monitor shipments of missiles and biological, chemical or nuclear materiel to and from other rogue states as well as terrorist organizations. The group has 16 "core" countries, while the remaining 80-plus nations have basically observer status.

In the wake of North Korea's underground nuclear test this week, South Korea joined PSI as a core member. North Korea responded at once with a warning of military reprisals if anyone attempted to stop or board one of its vessels.

PSI is the brainchild of John Bolton in 2003, when he was undersecretary of State for arms control during the presidency of George W. Bush, and other members of the old neocon crowd. The fact that President Barack Obama appears to be as enthusiastic about PSI as Bush was highlights the irony of the similarities in the policies of the two presidents when it comes to the puzzle of North Korea.

For South Korea, the main benefit of joining PSI may be to get along with its American ally. The U.S. has only 28,500 troops in South Korea, including Air Force units, and is moving the last infantry and armored units north of Seoul to well south of the capital. American commanders seem convinced that South Korean forces could hold off the North Koreans on their own with U.S. air and naval support and modern weaponry.

Despite Pyongyang's rhetoric over PSI, the initiative may be of only symbolic value in terms of the defense of the Korean peninsula. Although PSI could form the basis of a de facto alliance, the participants so far have engaged mainly in exercises and exchanges of information. And Seoul has said it would only stop North Korean vessels if they intruded in South Korea's territorial waters—a right that it has often vowed to exercise. The fact is, North Korean vessels have challenged South Koreans in the Yellow Sea in bloody battles in June 1999 and June 2002, with casualties on both sides.

This is not to say that PSI serves no real purpose. It is quite possible that nations, acting in concert, could use it to keep weapons of mass destruction, and the means to make and fire them, out of the hands of al-Qaida and Taliban terrorists.

That purpose is more than theoretical. Pakistan has nuclear weapons, and A.Q. Khan, the "father" of the Pakistani A-bomb, profited immensely from selling his expertise to clients, including Libya and North Korea.

For now, however, the Obama administration, while wielding the abstraction of PSI as a tool for countering proliferation, will have to settle on diplomatic pressure, again as exercised during the Bush administration.

The first task is to strengthen sanctions against North Korea, getting China and Russia to stop the sale of all arms and spare parts to the North Korean army. China, as the major source of food, fuel and fertilizer for North Korea, could induce the North to knock off the launches and nuclear tests and focus on the overwhelming question of feeding its hungry people and restoring its dilapidated economy.

China is extremely reluctant to act firmly, but its hugely favorable trade balances with the United States and South Korea may be considerations that Beijing should not ignore. Although U.S. officials don't say so, trade issues with China could well become linked to China's cooperation vis-a-vis North Korea.

China and the rest of the world have another, more disturbing, reason for cooperating to get North Korea to give up its nuclear program. That's the danger of a nuclear arms race in the region.

Optimistically, it's possible to imagine China agreeing that cooperation against proliferation is a fine idea. Pessimistically, China might view Japan and Taiwan as enemies against which it would need to build its defenses in league with North Korea. In such a scenario, South Korea would be exposed, and a regional war is not hard to imagine.

That's a doomsday scenario that may be as fanciful as are the hopes of a denuclearized North Korea. It's also likely that the two Koreas will go on confronting one another as diplomats look for solutions. Like much of the rest of the world right now, South Koreans may be more worried about economic issues. Even after Pyongyang's recent provocations, South Koreans tend to view war as a distant apparition, not an immediate nightmare.

In the end, threatening North Korea with undefined "consequences" or with PSI actions isn't going to persuade Pyongyang to calm down and return to talks on abandoning its nuclear weapons program. The Obama administration, like its predecessor, will have to rely on diplomatic pressure.

Kirk, a longtime correspondent in South Korea, is the author of two books and many articles on Korean issues.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

I Tano Mame Luta

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Deste kuattro siglu malofan, todo manhalom deste Españot, Haliman yan esta pago na tiempo, sesso ma-upos i gatbo na Islan Luta. Este na sinisede guaha lokue dañkulo bintahaña. Ha sede taotao mame umusune linala` tradision gi chechu gualo yan tase para mantension familia.

Deste tiempo ni uno sumeha umusune hafa guinahan tano an tasen natibu. Ayo na ni hafa u falofan na mattiru, manatacho tunas gi hilo hinimidde sa guaha prebension gualo yan tase. Maseha bahu i pumalo tano siha guine, manlala` i mañeluta ginen guinaha yan finachochu diariamente.

Gi todo kinalamten, mandaña todos pareho gi inakuden checho komunidat, familia gi halom tiempon eskases sino abundansia. Este na dinaña ti mamagtos, patte gi tradision natibu deste antigo na Chamorro. Este na pogse i gumuot fitme i taotaota duranten yan dispues de mattiron linao, pagyo, dilubiu yan eskases. Guiya este na pogse muna fitme ina`akude gi entalo Chamorro. Guiya este na pogse i fafayen taotaota giya Luta.

Megai manhanao pot inespihan appottunidat chochu. Lao mahuhuñgog ha` gi santatte i sunidon pañgpañg tase gi chago ilelegña "bira hamyo mage dispues". Magahet na maseha haye dumiñgo Islan Luta todo i tiempo gaige gi korasoña ayo na isla `nai mafañagogue. Bira birada siempre ha bisita tatte i tano ti mamagtos na trañkulida.

I sabanan iya Luta i korona yan linala` taotaota. Ginen i riku na sabana nai mimilalag papa` mames na hanom, mitinanom gulusina yan aguon haya, gaga siha para mantension familia, fresko diariamente achogha tiempon maipe. Gefsaga na isla gi todo mattiro ni fumatoigue i taotaota deste antes.

Antes de bai` dingo Luta gi mapos na semana, umadiñganyu yan un` hoben ni sumañgan gi triste na manera na megai bisnis humuchom pettan niha. Este na pinadese ha umenta mas chinatsaga sa mantai chechu dispues ayo siha i man-masuesueddo guihe siha na bisnis. "Lao chamo mamatman. Tutuhon mamogsai yan mananom sa` ennao solu chachalaña huyoñg este na chinatsaga".

Man-anae` kinisechan gualo yan tase maseha adumididi. Satton este na tradision gi taotaota ya manlisto gi inakuden chinatsagan maseha haye na taotaota. Estague yuhe na pogse` i hagas sumustene natibu deste antes. Mas mangeftao taotaota piot guine siha na tiempo `nai sige ha dumidog mas i chinatsagan eskases. Hu nanae si guelo yan guela agradesimeinto nu este na tradision (ina`ayuda) piot guine gi tiempon chinatsaga. Estague sumustene natibu esta pago na tiempo.

Dañkulo respetuhu gi amiguho Señot Tomas (Tom) Mendiola pot menhalom yan ha komprende finapos natibu. Yangin pot tradision, kustumbre yan liñguahe, megai para bai` eyag ginen este na amiguho. Pot este na rason na hu agradese konbetsasion mame maseha ñgaian `nai umasoda ham. Atbetto korason yan hinasson mame gi todo asunto ni in` diskute pot finapos natibu deste antigu na kustumbre yan tradision Chamorro esta i modetno na modun linalata.

Sigeyu chumaleg tuyan `nai ha esplika finaton grupon Guahan gi boten sagman yan galaide. Konfotmeyu na atrasao kanaha` kuatro sientos años finaton niha. Hana hassoyu ni un` miyinario ni kumone taotao Satawal para umasugun i botiña layag para Satawal sin modetno na instrumenton tase.

Mapañgon un` ogaan gi menan un` isla giya Satawal. Matman ya ilegña, "Haf` taimano soda` miyu nu este na isla". Ilegña i tradisionat na kapitan: "Señot, deste tutuhon i tano gaige este na grupon isla guine". Magpo i konbetsasion para ayo na haane. Magahet, appruebao tradision natibu deste uson hafa guinehata esta`i kareran tase `nai ma-usa i pution, rimulinon napu, mañglo yan paluma.

Fitme este gi gatbo na Islan Luta. Mampos hana maagim korasonhu sa` hu konfitma na ayo na tano `nai gaige hale` familiaghu. Sedeyu sumañgan pot primet biahe: I Tano Mame Luta.

Letters to the Editor

A PSS governing panel

I have talked a great deal about accountability in the administration of PSS and I would like to offer a solution for consideration as BOE policy. A governing panel needs to be created to "govern" the Public School System, with power to enforce decisions regarding personnel, disputes and policy compliance.

Presently, the board governs these issues, which is contrary to the principle of "separation of powers" when BOE is creating the policy and then governing it. Separation of powers is a basic governing principle that we teach in high school: The Legislature makes laws, the Executive Branch enforces laws, and the Judiciary decides on laws. If you will look at the way BOE and PSS operate, you will discover that BOE makes the policy, BOE carries out the policy through its representative—the COE—and BOE decides on the policies it has implemented. In other words, BOE is a dictator over the education system when their only fiduciary function is to *make* policies.

The COE is structured to carry out BOE policies but the COE is totally accountable to the BOE. The best examples of the flaw in the governance system at PSS was when the board allowed the COE to violate her contract and run for public office, the recent mistakes made with PRAXIS, and the controversy over who would be the COE, which resulted in a lawsuit and the firing of the COE, with no means to hold the board accountable for wrongful hiring and wrongful termination. What this means is there is no accountability on the Board of Education; it's a dictatorship. There is also no method for teachers and staff to hold the COE accountable as all complaints end with the COE's decision, with no appeal mechanism in place. What this means is there is no accountability on the Education Commissioner, especially when the COE is merely an extension of the board, which means the board is also carrying out policy. It should be clear that there is no governing body (Judiciary) to decide about the policies and their application to personnel issues, disputes and policy compliance.

We have literally asked the board to govern itself, which is like asking the police to police themselves. We see the results of this phenomenon when there are police filing discrimination suits. Self-governance doesn't work under any condition and the founders of America knew this fact.

The governing panel for PSS should consist of three people: a representative of teachers and staff, a representative of administration and a member of the CNMI Bar Association to chair the panel as the representative of students, parents and the community (Note: It is also obvious to me that DPS needs this same form of governing mechanism). The governing panel is a simple fix to a major problem.

The governing panel should review personnel matters—not the board. The governing panel should be the final relief body for disputes, not the COE and the board. The governing panel should make the final decision on policy compliance and determine whether policies are "good or bad" policies, not the board. All decisions made by the governing panel should be final and binding. I'm sure everyone with common sense can see the problem and how the accountability for PSS should be structured. I would like to believe the board will now see the flaw in the governance system of PSS and create the panel but people may have to depend upon the Legislature to mandate the implementation of the governing panel through law if we are to have real accountability at every level of our education system.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Former BOE Teacher Rep
Kagman, Saipan

On street and road signs—again

Another accident occurred (at least three to four times already at the same location) just last night (May 29, 2009, a few minutes after 7pm) on the intersection of Buenas Tatdes and Dandan Road. When I called 911, a receptionist answered and I stated my call about an accident in Dandan. To my surprise, the receptionist asked me, "Is that the same accident by Mom Pop Store?" I immediately said "yes" but due to no street/road sign present, I told her that it is in the intersection of Buenas Tatdes and Dandan road.

The funny thing about this, my fellow people of the CNMI, is that we are still using other landmarks to identify a certain location. This should not be the case if only our legislators did not reprogram the nearly $168,000 balance remaining from the "Street and Road Sign Funds." They reprogrammed the money and split it among themselves for projects that were not as important as a stop sign or a street/road sign. They compromised safety over project that will make them look good this election year, that's why! I have written letters to the editor about this same issue after learning what the Legislature did. I totally disagree with lawmakers when they reprogram rather than rectify the problem.

I remember when Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela came out in the local papers and expressed his disappointment about the street sign being vandalized, ran down by reckless drivers, and never replaced. If someone gets caught vandalizing or defacing public property, they should be prosecuted; if someone runs a street sign over with their vehicle, their insurance company should pay for it, and not the CNMI government. Today, look around your neighborhood, on the main roads of Saipan and you'll notice nearly half of the signs are gone. Just a few week ago, I saw on the paper that another street sign and guard rail was run over across from the old Town and Country restaurant on Middle Road. To date, the sign has not been replaced, the guardrail is bent out of shape and remains an eyesore, not only to us but to our visitors and tourist alike. MVA continues to pass out road maps of Saipan but no street signs to guide our visitors.

I challenge all incumbent candidates running for office again to do something about this issue. Please, let's modernize and not go back to the caveman days. Question to our leaders: What ever happened to safety first?

Joseph M. Palacios
Dandan, Saipan

Illegal parking in handicapped zone

I am in a total sense of astonishment. This morning I went to the store to purchase the *Saipan Tribune*. I am handicapped and have a placard identifying me as handicapped. When I arrived at the parking lot, I observed another vehicle parked in the handicapped marked slot. I patiently waited and a vehicle parked *next* to the slot departed and I was able to get the slot. As I was exiting my vehicle the driver of the vehicle illegally parked in the handicapped slot exited the store and got into the vehicle. I know it was not an authorized vehicle because no placard was visible and it was a vehicle with writing on the side identifying it as a well know local company. I approached the vehicle and the driver lowered the window. I said "Good morning, sir. You are parked in a slot that is designated for people with disabilities and your parking in the slot shows total disrespect for us people with disabilities. I myself am disabled as a result of combat. I am sure that your boss and your company would be very upset if I reported the incident." He then told me, "I know where you live and if I get in trouble with my boss I will visit you." I asked him if this was a threat and he didn't respond.

Previously I have called police when people violate the handicapped parking. When the police arrive, they refuse to give a person a ticket, saying, "The slot is not properly marked and we would lose the case in court." I asked them, "What do you mean? The slot is painted blue and the sign is posted." They told me the slot is not in compliance with the statute and is not wide enough and the sign not tall enough. I asked them to make an incident report so we citizens could report the violations and get the situation corrected. They refused.

I wish you folks could assist the public in this dilemma. I have previously asked NMPASI to get from DPS the number of traffic violations issued in the last two years for this violation and they could not get a response. I believe the answer to be "zero." When we take a driving test I am sure the test does not ask for the height and width of the space but only the identifying marking. It does not take a rocket scientist to know these marked slots are for people with disabilities. It's only a couple of days past Memorial Day yet people find it necessary to violate the law and make it harder for us with disabilities.

Larry Lacy
Koblerville, Saipan

Give credit where it is due

How is it that CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan can take credit for the opening of the VA Clinic since he has only been in office less than a year and Ruth Coleman, along with Dr. Shear and other medical staff, have been working on this project for longer than five years.

Please contact Ruth Coleman at the VA affairs or Fe Cepeda at CHC to get the truth and give credit to those who deserve and earned it. Not those who would have you believe that one phone call from a new CNMI Delegate can move mountains and create heaven and earth and a VA Clinic by his request.

Frank H. Cepeda
via e-mail

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼79°	▲86° ▼79°	▲86° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼80°

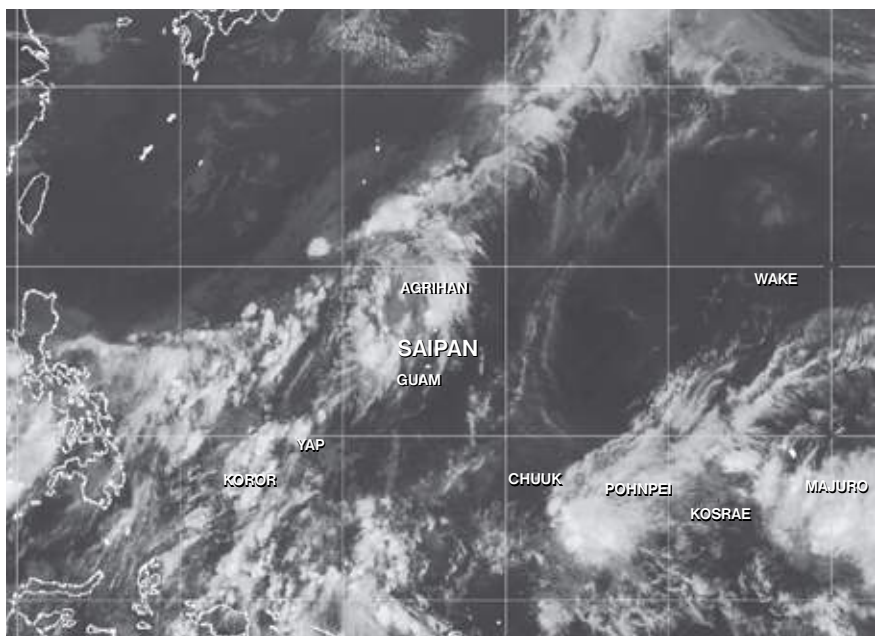
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Rain	▲86	▼76
Palau	Cloudy	▲86	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲87	▼76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲84	▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Majuro	Cloudy	▲85	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲57	▼45
Beijing	Hot	▲96	▼66
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲86	▼79
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼73
London	Cloudy	▲70	▼54
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲74	▼60
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲59	▼50
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲86	▼74
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼64
Osaka	Sunny	▲78	▼58
Paris	Cloudy	▲66	▼53
Pusan	Sunny	▲79	▼60
Rome	Thundershowers	▲80	▼61
Salem	Cloudy	▲73	▼48
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲68	▼54
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼57
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲76	▼62
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼67

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front enters the discussion area at 25N145E and continues southwestward to 20N140E to beyond 130E at 15N. Extensive cloudiness, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found along and up to 320 miles southeast of the front. A surface trough extends southward from 14N136E to Yap to 5N140E. Convergence along and near the trough axis is allowing for scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in an area bounded by a line from 10N130E to 10N140E to EQ144E to EQ136E back to 10N130E. Trade-wind convergence over the Marshall Islands and eastern Micronesia is generating a large area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 240 miles of a line from 5N180 to Kosrae to 2N152E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
2:31 AM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
9:07 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
2:26 PM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
8:30 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:44 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:09 PM	12:46 AM
Tuesday	2:00 PM	1:24 AM
Wednesday	2:52 PM	2:03 AM
Thursday	3:45 PM	2:42 AM
Friday	4:38 PM	3:24 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:30am	5:20am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

CO9598	2:20am	2:50am	5, 6
CO9312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-PALAU (ROR)

CO893	5:50pm	6:50pm	3, 5
CO953	6:50pm	7:50pm	1, 7
CO953	7:35pm	10:05pm	2, 4, 6

PALAU (ROR)-MANILA

CO893	7:35pm	9:10pm	3, 5

GUAM-MANILA

CO893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via ROR
CO933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR111	6:00am	7:45am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW99	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW78	9:00am	2:05pm	Daily via NGO
NW75	3:50pm	6:25am	Daily

GUAM-NARITA (NRT)

CO961	6:35am	9:10am	Daily
NW83	8:00am	1:55pm	Daily via KIX
CO6	12:00pm	2:45pm	Daily
NW73	4:05pm	7:00pm	Daily
CO963	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1
OZ119	4:20am	7:00am	4,6

GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)

NW83	8:00am	10:45am	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW78	9:00am	11:40am	Daily

GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)

CO971	7:45am	10:30am	Daily
NW23	4:10pm	7:05pm	Daily
CO975	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	excl 1
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1 via KIX
OZ119	4:20am	11:20am	4, 6 via KIX

SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG

OZ721	9:05am	11:45am	Daily
OZ723	7:45pm	10:30pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA

OZ701	8:35am	11:25am	Daily
OZ703	7:50pm	10:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

CO9598	3:25am	4:00am	5, 6
CO9312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
CO9598	2:20am	4:00am	5, 6 via ROP
CO9596	7:00am	5:00am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily x6
CO9312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

CO9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

PALAU (ROR)-GUAM

CO954	1:10am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
CO954	1:45am	4:40am	1, 2
CO892	2:35am	5:30am	4, 6

MANILA-PALAU (ROR)

CO892	10:10pm	1:50am+1	3, 5

MANILA-GUAM

CO892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3, 5 via ROR
CO934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR110	10:00pm	4:00am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW76	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW77	6:30pm	1:40am+1	Daily via NGO
NW100	7:50pm	12:30am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-GUAM

NW74	10:00am	2:50pm	Daily
CO962	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily
CO7	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
NW84	6:20pm	1:40am+1	Daily
CO964	8:25pm	1:00am+1	Daily
NW82	8:30pm	1:05am+1	4
NW82	8:30pm	1:20am+1	X 4

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6

OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM

NW84	9:05pm	1:40am+1	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW77	9:10pm	1:40am	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM

NW24	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
CO970	11:30am	4:30pm	Daily
CO972	8:25pm	12:55am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 5, 6 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	excl 7

HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ724	12:30am	5:05am	Daily
OZ722	1:15pm	5:45pm	Daily

MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ702	12:45pm	5:45pm	Daily
OZ704	11:50pm	4:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Letter to the Editor

Boycotting Memorial Day

Prior to Memorial Day, I called up the Office of the Rota Mayor to inquire if there's any celebration or ceremony for this special day and was told that the Office of the Mayor has nothing to do with the preparation, etc., and was told to call DCCA and the Veterans' Association. I was just curious as to who's actually responsible in coordinating this event, but it seems like nobody knows.

"We're boycotting 'Memorial Day," that's what someone said. What do you mean "boycotting Memorial Day"?

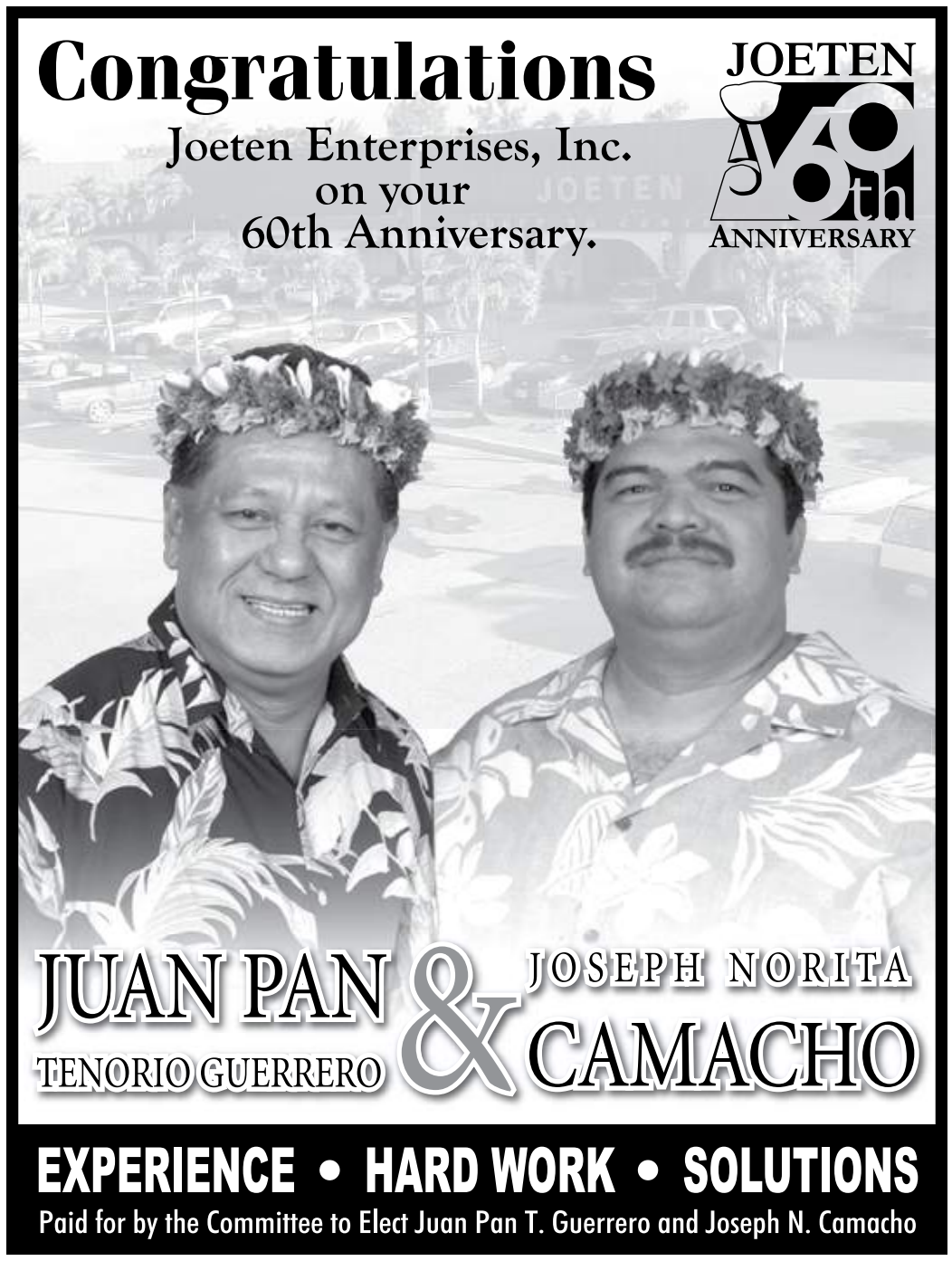
Anyhow, without any word from anybody about Memorial Day, we went ahead and prepared ourselves for this day and when we passed by the Veteran's Memorial Park, there was no flag flown at half-staff so we figured there's no celebration for that day. We went down to the cemetery to pay tribute to our beloved brother. After paying our respect, we went back to the Veteran's Memorial Park and met up with the one and only retired Army personnel, Mr. Nobert Mundo, who was preparing to lift his own personal flag (thank God!), who was with Mr. Ike Mendiola and Ms. Florence Sablan, councilor Alfred M. Apatang, Pastor Reyes and of course our family. We all gathered around the park and Pastor Reyes said a brief prayer. Mr. Ike Mendiola also made a memorial speech and then stood there for a while in honor of those who have fallen. There was no other elected or government official that showed up that day. Thanks to those who were present.

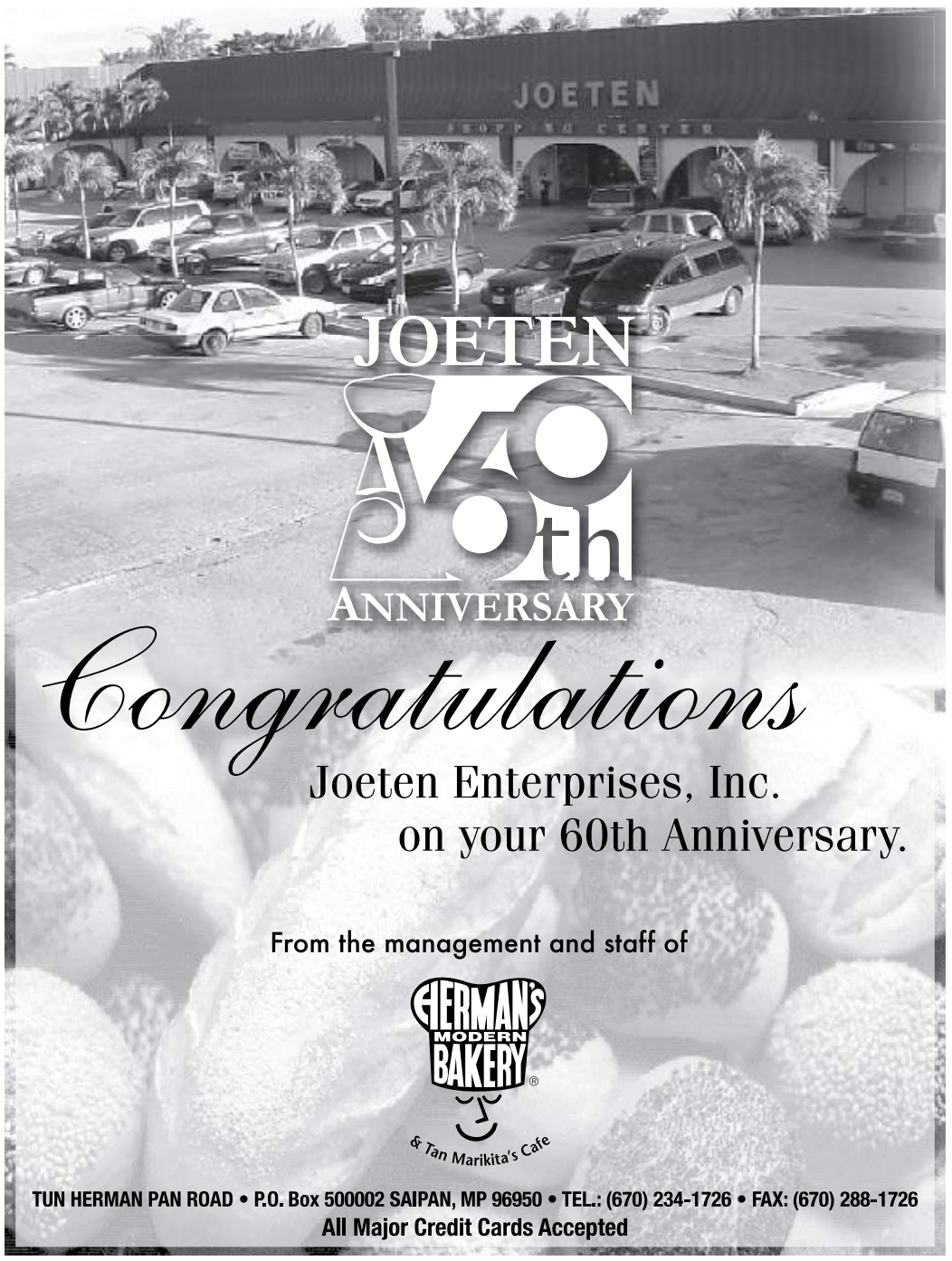
I would just like to share something I read in the paper about what Rear Adm. William D. French said in his Memorial Day speech on Saipan. He said, "It is for them too that Memorial Day exists. It is a day of celebration to remember them and the freedoms they died to win, defend, and preserve." But this didn't happen on Rota. It was a very sad day because the one and only fallen hero from the tiny island of Rota was not recognized and honored for his noble act. Why?

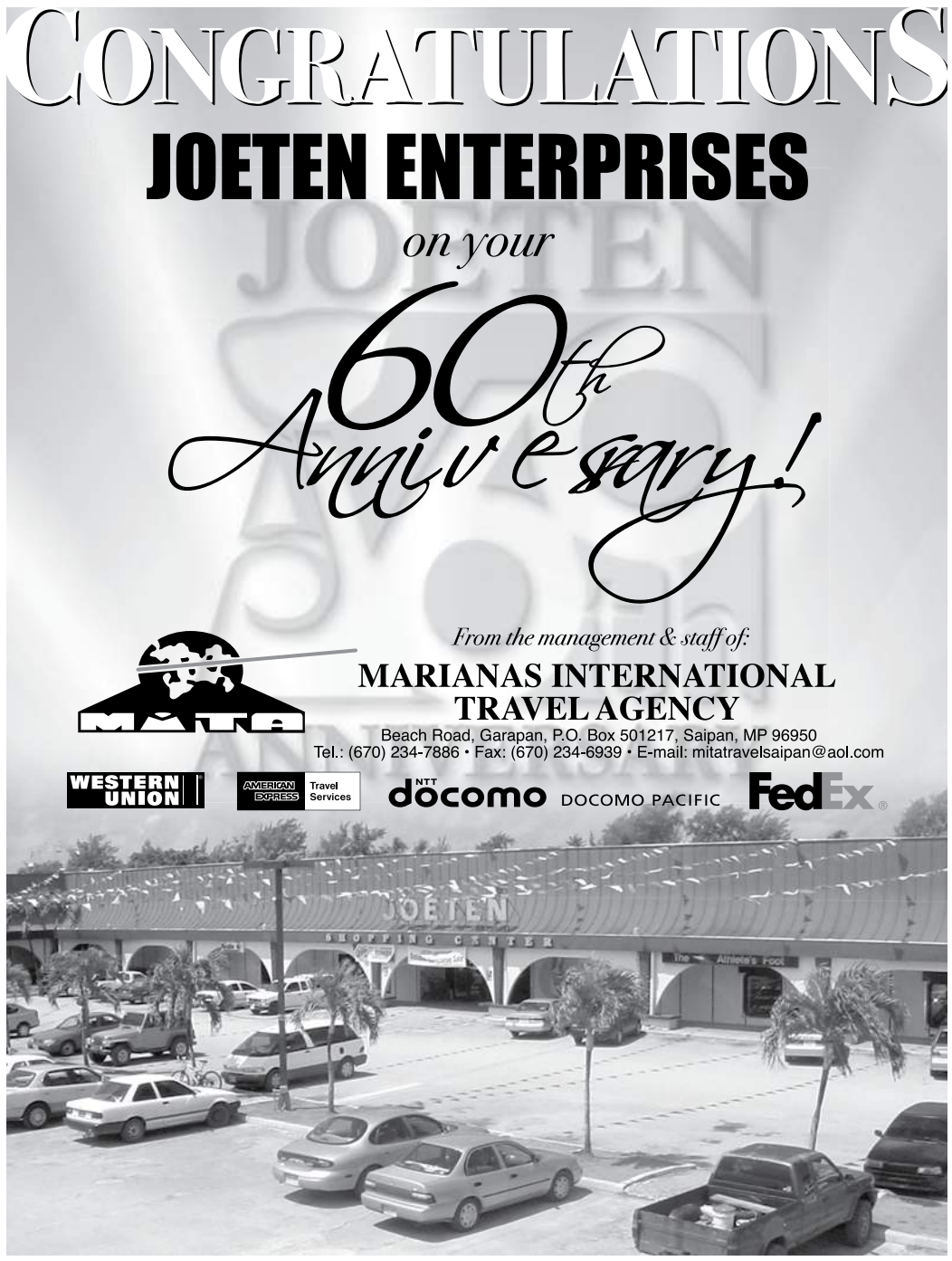
For those of you who don't know, the Veteran's Memorial Park on Rota was recently renamed "Corporal Joe Junior G. Charfauros Veteran's Memorial Park" in memory of his noble act defending our nation. I would like to thank Sen. Paterno S. Hocog and his colleagues for coming up with such bill and for recognizing the heroism of my beloved brother. Additionally, I would like you to understand that what Sen. Paterno Hocog did in recognizing our brother is not political, but merely to remember that he was the first Rotanese ever to perish in the Iraq War. No one since the Vietnam War has a Rotanese died during battle but my bother. He sacrificed by leaving his job at Rota DPS for the sake of defending our great nation. He died while defending all of us. He was honored for his military heroism and was saluted by honorable veterans from our central government on Saipan. The leaders and veterans of Rota should have honored the thought behind the bill introduced by our good senator and approved by the Legislature. They should have prepared a special event to reflect the honor bestowed upon by my beloved brother.

We wish you all the best and please let us set aside dirty politics when it comes to the good of our lovely island of Rota. Let us not taint our island with ambivalence, hatred and jealousy and let us move forward with love and respect for one another.

Vanessa Charfauros
Sinapalo I, Rota




JOETEN
60th
ANNIVERSARY
Congratulations
Joeten Enterprises, Inc.
on your 60th Anniversary.
From the management and staff of
HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
& Tan Marikita's Cafe
TUN HERMAN PAN ROAD • P.O. Box 500002 SAIPAN, MP 96950 • TEL.: (670) 234-1726 • FAX: (670) 288-1726
All Major Credit Cards Accepted



HEAD START TRAINING

Anita Choy, early childhood education service consultant of the Sonoma State University, conducts a two-day training, May 29-29, at Hyatt Regency Saipan's SandCastle for Head Start teachers. She said her goal is to increase math knowledge in Head Start classes by mathematizing concepts, language, and skills in children's everyday life.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Uncle Angel Songao Hocog, who is celebrating his birthday today. "Your birthday is a special day—one that's just for you, a time for doing everything you specially like to do, and on this day that belongs to you. The wish this greeting brings is for the joy you so deserve and all of life's nicest things! Happy birthday Uncle Angel and may God bless you today and always!" With love, the Crack Clan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated birthday greetings going out to Jan Springer who celebrated her birthday on May 30. "May you continue to be blessed with much love, joy, and happiness! Thank you for being an awesome friend!" From: Ton & Lorraine Arriola, The Taisacan's, your 2nd Grade team, & the staff and faculty of Garapan Elementary School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A special birthday shoutout goes out to Breanna Kay Maratita Camacho, who is celebrating her 8th birthday today, June1. "Happy birthday, Brea! You've brought happiness and sunshine into all our hearts in many ways. We wish you many more blessings and joyous wonders in life. We love you very much! May you have the best birthday ever!" From Mom, Dad, Shawn, Frankie, Kimberly, and Grandma Vicky.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulation to Kyna Margareth Sales, who won the Best in Penmanship Award during the 6th Commencement Exercise of the Green Meadow School. She is shown here with her teacher Zenaida, mom Malou and dad Arvin Ian, Green Meadow School principal Marilyn, Mr. Songcuan, PSS Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, and Milagros A. Merjilla of the Green Meadow School. Greetings come from *tatay* and *nanay*.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DCCA CHILD CARE PROGRAM OPENS FOR NEW APPLICANTS (CNMI)

To: All parents and/or Legal Guardians

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be accepting new applications for Child Care and Development Fund (Child Care Program) for the island of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Applications for the island of Saipan maybe picked up on Thursday, June 4, 2009 between 8:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. Applications for the island of Tinian and Rota may be picked up at respective DCCA Offices.

Applications may be picked up at: DCCA Child Care Program Office
Building No. 1347 Capital Hill
Office nos. 664-2575 and 664-2573

APPLICATION FORMS ARE LIMITED and are released on a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED basis. When the applications are out, the program will immediately close its issuance of applications. For this opening, only 25 applications will be released.

Applications that were released in the previous openings are no longer valid and WILL NOT be accepted.

Completed applications along with the required documents should be forwarded to the Child Care Program Office, no later than Friday, June 12, 2009 at 12:00p.m.

Requirements:
Applicant of Household

1. Check stubs for the most recent two pay periods for each parent or guardian
2. A copy of Identification Card for each parent or guardian (Passport, CNMI driver's license, Mayor's ID Card or entry permit)
3. A copy of your most recent 1040 Tax (each parent or guardian)
4. Residency: The applicant or guardian must be living in the CNMI
   Provide one of the following documents
   a. House Rental/ Mortgage
   b. Utility Receipt
   c. Telephone Receipt
   d. Entry Permit
5. Employment verification
6. Child support statement/stub
7. Training/Education Verification and class schedules
8. If single parent/guardian in a household provide notarized affidavit

Child/Children Household member:

1. A copy of Birth Certificate for each child (Child must be a US citizen or a qualified alien, as defined in Personal Responsibility Work Opportunity Act (PRWORA)
2. A copy of US Passport
3. A copy of Social Security Card

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

ADDENDUM NO.2

June 1, 2009

DPW09-IFB-011
CONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 31 CROSS ISLAND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 1, SAIPAN
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0031(013)

1. **General:** The following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specifications and drawings shall apply to the work affected thereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised of the information contained herein. In the event of a conflict between drawings, specifications and this Addendum, the contents of this Addendum shall govern. All further conflicts in the work resulting from, or caused by, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for resolution. **Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum in accordance with instructions may subject your bid to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).**

2. **Pre-Bid Conference:** Will be held on June 5, 2009, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Gualo Office.

3. **All questions:** All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on June 12, 2009 to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, DPW 2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

4. **Sealed bids:** must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-011"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. June 26, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 26, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-Mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 26, 2009, and must be received no later than July 7, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

5. **Bid Opening:** Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, July 10, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on July 1, 2009

All other requirements of the Invitation for Bids of the project package shall remain as stated.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

US tries exit tracking system at two airports

The Homeland Security Department launched test programs at two airports Thursday in an attempt to verify when foreigners and legal permanent residents leave the country, but federal officials remain at odds with the airline industry over the effort.

The objective is to develop a system in which fingerprints are collected at every airport from non-U.S. citizens departing the United States. The fingerprints would be used to verify that visitors have not overstayed the time they are allowed to remain in the country.

Congress has been demanding the implementation of such a visa-enforcement process since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The test programs began Thursday at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport and will last for 35 days. The testing will compare the process of collecting fingerprints at checkpoints operated by the Transportation Security Administration to having Customs and Border Protection collect fingerprints at gates.

But what is missing is a test to determine the feasibility of having the airlines, as opposed to the government, collect the fingerprints. Congress asked for such a test in its report accompanying the fiscal 2009 Homeland Security appropriations bill.

Officials from the airline industry and the department dispute each other's account of why the airline test is not being done.

"We can say with complete confidence that since Congress called for the trials late last year, DHS has never contacted us to cooperate on an airline test," said Steve Lott, spokesman for the International Air Transport Association. "It's not that we are resisting help. Frankly, they haven't asked us yet. Why not? I don't know."

But Robert Mocny, director of the program, known as US-VISIT, said the airlines refused to participate in the test program.

"We've been reaching out to them for months and they have completely refused," Mocny said. "They have a very concerted effort to not participate."

Victoria Day, spokeswoman for the Air Transport Association, said her group has had conversations with the department, "but nothing has emerged from them."

But Mocny said he ultimately expects a compromise to be reached under which the airlines participate in the final version of an exit verification system.

Aides for congressional appropriators acknowledged Thursday the airline test program is missing from current department plans. But they said the most important thing is getting the results of the test programs now getting under way.

"The bottom line ... is that the [pilot programs] are going forward where we're seeing how an exit system could be implemented at the gate and at the checkpoint," one aide said.

Aides also said they expect the government and airlines to reach a compromise.

The department did not seek any funding in its fiscal 2010 budget request to move forward with an air exit system. But one aide said the test results will be known by the time the House and Senate begin to reconcile their fiscal 2010 Homeland Security spending bills, and adding money for an air exit system will likely be part of conference negotiations. ***(CongressDaily)***

Lucero tops Chamorro spelling contest

From left, ESFDB Chamorro Spelling contestants Jahnae Ogo, Jaime Joe Inos, Joshua Semana, Jude Caido, 3rd/4th Grade class adviser Sr. Margie Aguilar, RVM; Chamorro Spelling Bee champion Angelica Lucero, 3rd Runner Up Christian Hocog, and 2nd Runner Up Jonelle Toskas, Vicente Quinata, Metka Mendiola, Loreville Clitar, Roberta Maratita, and Tiana Ogo. (Not in photo is Chamorro Class adviser and ESFDB board president Edward Maratita, Jr.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For the second year, Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja held its annual Chamorro Spelling contest among the third and fourth grade classes of Edward Maratita Jr.

The emphasis in the Spelling contest was to have the students spell the word in Chamorro alphabets rather than English. Other emphases included are pronunciation, usage, and meaning.

According to Sr. Margie Aguilar, RVM, it was a challenge for the students since most of them are a diverse bunch. It was also a challenge for Maratita because the non-fluent Chamorro speakers must carefully hear the way he pronounced the word so that the right letters are used to spell the word.

This school year, the winners are 3rd grader Angelica Lucero (Champion), 3rd grader Jonelle Toskas (2nd Runner Up), and 4th grader Christian Hocog (3rd Runner Up).

The Pacific Regional Training Institute, Paul and Kendra Tanaka (Hawaii) and Barrigada Vice Mayor June U. Blas donated cash prizes. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-OPM-099

SUBMISSION: JUNE 29, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR AN ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND EXCEPTED SERVICE EMPLOYEES FOR THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS..

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **10:00 A.M., JUNE 17, 2009** AT THE OFFICE OF THE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, CONFERENCE ROOM, QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **DR. PETER C. ECHE, TRAINING DIRECTOR, echewpc@pticom.com** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS **JUNE 19, 2009**.

/s/ **ISIDRO K. SEMAN**
ACTING OPM DIRECTOR

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP09-CHC-104

SUBMISSION: JUNE 22, 2009 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"TO PROVIDE CONSULTING SERVICES TO ENHANCE MASS FATALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CNMI"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **MR. WARREN VILLAGOMEZ, HPP COORDINATOR, COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER** BY FAX TO (670) 236-8756 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS **JUNE 18, 2009**.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERECED IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **PEDRO T. UNTALAN**
ACTING SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB09-DOF-102

SUBMISSION: JUNE 05, 2009 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.
OPENING: JUNE 05, 2009 • TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"SALE OF GOVERNMENT PERSONAL PROPERTIES"

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP THE SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

BIDDER(S) IS CAUTION TO INSPECT THE PROPERTY(S).

INSPECTION DATE IS SCHEDULE FROM **MAY 18, 2009 THRU JUNE 04, 2009 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.,** EXCEPT WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS.

/s/ **ROBERT A. SCHRACK**
ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

HIGH COURT OF AMARICAN SAMOA
TRIAL DIVISION

DANIEL PANTEA Petitioner, VS. MAY REUNION LOGO SOLO Respondent.	DR No. 63-08 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION & PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO/IA: MAY REUNION LOGO SOLO

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Complaint has been filed against you before the High Court of American Samoa. The Complaint is for a divorce. You are required to serve an answer to the Complaint on Sharron Rancourt, attorney for Petitioner, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 4844, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799, no later than two (2) months and ten (10) days after the date of the first publication of this notice. You must also serve a copy of your answer on the Clerk of the High Court.

If you fail to do so, a judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Ua faaailoa atu nei ia oe ua faauluina nei i le Faamasinoga Maualuga, se mataupu faasaga ia te oe ona o divorce.

Ua polo'aiina nei oe ina ia tauaaoina se tali i lenei mataupu ia, Sharron Rancourt, loia so le itu fagi, ma o lona tuatasi o le P.O. Box 4844 Pago Pago American Samoa 96799, a o le'i mae'a masina e lua (2) ma aso e sefulu (10), mai le'ulua'i aso sa fa'asalalauina ai lenei fa'asilasilaga. E tatau ona e-tauaaoina mai se kopi o lau tali i le Failautusi o le Faamasinoga Maualuga.

O lou le utagia mai, ma e tuuina mai sei tali i lenei faasilasilaga, o le fai ai loa e le Faamasinoga se faaiuga i lenei mataupu, mo se fescaoani e pei ona talosagaina e le itu tagi.

Dated/Aso:

/s/ Clerk / Failautusi
High Court of American Samoa
Fa'amasinoga Maualuga
o Amerika Samoa

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its ***Regular*** meeting on **Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 8:00 a.m.** at the **NMI Retirement Fund Conference Room, Saipan.**

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting:
  - 1. May 19, 2009

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS
- A. Report of the Chairman
  - 1. ROC No. 09-005
- B. Report of the Administrator / Correspondence
  - 1. ROA No. 09-005
    - a) Status Updates
- C. Report of the Comptroller
  - 1. Financials
    - a) NMIRF
    - b) GHLITF
    - c) WCC
  - 2. Drawdown Requests
  - 3. CGECU Status Update
- D. Reports of the Committees
  - 1. Finance & Investment Committee
    - a) FIC Report No. 09-001
    - b) FIC Report No. 09-002
    - c) FIC Report No. 09-003
  - 2. Operations & Personnel Committee
    - a) OP Report No. 09-001
  - 3. Policies, Programs & Legislative Review Committee
    - a) PPLR Report No. 08-004
    - b) PPLR Report No. 09-001
  - 4. GH&L and WCC Committee
    - a) GH&L and WCC Report No. 09-001
    - b) GH&L and WCC Report No. 09-002
- E. Reports of the Investment Director
  - 1. Status of Investment/Market Condition
  - 2. Report of Housing Loan Program
  - 3. MPLT Fee Sharing Proposal - Update
- F. Communications
  - 1. Internal Auditor Reports
- G. Other Matters

IV. LEGAL MATTERS
- A. Reports of the Legal Counsels
  - 1. Report of the Board Counsel
    - a) Lawsuit
    - b) Other Legal Matters
  - 2. Report of the In-house Counsel
    - a) Update on Administrative Appeals
  - 3. Report of the Hearing Officer

V. OLD BUSINESS
- 1. BR 08-001 Matters
  - a) Pension Application Matters
  - b) P.L. 15-98 / Refunds
  - c) Disability Applicants
- 2. RFP Rota Office Space
- 3. Board Resolution – Non-Recognition of Post-Retirement Adoptions
- 4. Board Resolution – Proportionate Pensions
- 5. Board Resolution – Cease of Refunds
- 6. RFP Building Maintenance

VI. NEW BUSINESS
- 1. Special Annuity Matters
- 2. Budget Overrun
  - a) NMIRF
  - b) GHLITF
- 3. Updated Physicians Listing Certification
- 4. Disability Requirement Matters
- 5. Stay Pending Appeal - M. White

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS
- A. Announcements
- B. Next Meeting
- C. Adjournment

/s/ JUAN T. GUERRERO
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Business

Hormone pills may make lung cancer more deadly

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—There's more troubling news about hormone therapy for menopause symptoms: Lung cancer seems more likely to prove fatal in women who are taking estrogen-progestin pills, a study suggests.

Hormone users who developed lung cancer were 60 percent more likely to die from the disease as women who weren't taking hormones, according to results reported Saturday.

The new findings mean that smokers should stop taking hormones, and those who have not yet started hormones should give it careful thought, said Dr. Rowan Chlebowski of Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles. He led the analysis and presented results at a meeting of the oncology society in Florida.

It's the latest finding from the Women's Health Initiative, a federal study that gave 16,608 women either Prempro or dummy pills. The study was stopped in 2002 when researchers saw more breast cancers in those on Prempro, the estrogen-progestin pill made by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. They continue to follow what happens to women in the study.

The new analysis looked at non-small-cell lung cancer, by far the most common type. It found no big difference in the number of lung cancers that developed in hormone users after five years on the pills and more than two years of followup.

However lung cancer proved fatal in 46 percent of hormone users who developed it versus 27 percent of those given dummy pills.

"It's another piece of evidence to suggest that hormone replacement therapy should be used with great caution," said Dr. Richard Schilsky, a cancer specialist at the University of Chicago and president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

Women who take hormones already are advised to use the lowest dose for the shortest time possible, doctors said. "Women almost certainly shouldn't be using combined hormone therapy and tobacco at the same time," Chlebowski said.

Magna to acquire GM's Opel unit

BERLIN (AP)—General Motors Corp. will sell its Opel unit and other European assets to Canada's Magna International Inc. in a deal German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Saturday would protect the assets from GM's likely bankruptcy.

The German government, GM and Magna International agreed early Saturday to a plan for the Canadian auto parts maker to acquire Opel with euro1.5 billion ($2.1 billion) in bridge loans from Germany, while contributing euro300 million to keep Opel running in the short term, Finance Minister Peer Steinbrueck told reporters.

"Opel has been given prospects for the future," Merkel told reporters hours after overnight talks between representatives from the two companies and government officials. "Now the work for Opel and for Magna ... really begins."

Under the deal, Magna will take a 20 percent stake in Opel and Russian-owned Sberbank will take a 35 percent stake, giving their consortium a majority. GM will retain 35 percent, and the remaining 10 percent will go to Opel employees.

The consortium plans to work with Russian car maker Gaz to produce more than a million vehicles in Russia and Eastern Europe. Sberbank's chairman German Gref praised the deal in an interview broadcast Saturday on Russia's state-run Vesti TV.

"We think that this is a very good chance for Russia to receive at an unprecedentedly low price one of the most progressive - from a technological standpoint - European automakers," Gref said.

The deal calls for Opel to be put under the care of a trustee later Saturday, designed to shield it from GM's likely filing for bankruptcy protection next week.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Wal-Mart opens first India wholesale outlet

MUMBAI, India (AP)—India just got its first Wal-Mart. Bharti Wal-Mart Private Ltd., a joint venture between India's Bharti Enterprises and Wal-Mart Stores Inc., opened its first wholesale outlet called "Best Price Modern Wholesale," in Amritsar in the northern state of Punjab on Saturday. The company plans to invest $100 million over the next three years to open 10 to 15 more wholesale outlets, which would employ 5,000 people across India. "We have put in a lot of planning and preparation over the past 12 months and are delighted that all the hard work will now bear fruit as we open the doors of our first cash-and-carry store in India," Chief Executive Raj Jain said in a statement. "We will generate significant job opportunities ... and we have been working closely with local suppliers to develop a sustainable and efficient supply chain."

GM board meets as bondholder deadline passes

DETROIT (AP)—General Motors Corp.'s board of directors met for a second day Saturday to make the final decision on whether the automaker would complete its restructuring by filing for bankruptcy protection Monday. The outcome of the meeting could not immediately be determined. GM and the Treasury Department, which has been guiding the Detroit automaker toward a rescue plan that will give taxpayers nearly a three-fourths stake in the company, went into secrecy mode. GM's bondholders had a 5 p.m. Saturday deadline to accept an offer to swap their $27 billion in debt for at least a 10 percent stake in a new GM. If the Treasury doesn't get the amount of support it wants, bondholders could wind up with far less in bankruptcy court.

Toyota Prius sales boom in Japan despite slowdown

TOKYO (AP)—Orders in Japan for Toyota's new Prius hybrid have topped a booming 110,000, a major dealership chain said Saturday, in what is turning out to be a rare bright spot in the gloomy auto market. The third-generation Prius officially rolled out in Japan just two weeks ago. But dealers are already flooded with orders, including some placed weeks in advance, according to the dealership. Toyota Motor Corp., the world's biggest automaker, said two weeks ago that it received 80,000 advance orders, and has not updated that number. But the Toyota Tokyo Corolla dealer said Saturday that nationwide orders at Toyota dealerships in Japan, including those of rivals, have soared to 110,000.

Nation

New ID rules begin June 1 for trip to Mexico, Canada

BLAINE, Wash. (AP)—New rules requiring passports or new high-tech documents to cross the United States' northern and southern borders are taking effect Monday, as some rue the tightening of security and others hail it as long overdue.

The rules are being implemented nearly eight years after the Sept. 11 attacks and long after the 9/11 Commission recommended the changes. They were delayed by complaints from state officials who worried the restrictions would hinder the flow of people and commerce and affect border towns dependent on international crossings.

In 2001 a driver's license and an oral declaration of citizenship were enough to cross the Canadian and Mexican borders; Monday's changes are the last step in a gradual ratcheting up of the rules. Now thousands of Americans are preparing by applying for passports or obtaining special driver's licenses that can also be used to cross the border.

"It's sad," said Steve Saltzman, a 60-year-old dual Canadian-American citizen as he entered the U.S. at the Peace Arch crossing in Blaine, Wash., on Thursday. "This was the longest undefended border in the world. Now all of the sudden it is defended, and not nearly as friendly."

AP

This May 28, 2009 photo shows a newer United States passport, bottom left, and an expired and pierced passport at an Immigration & Family Law business downtown in Los Angeles.

Near the border crossing, local Blaine resident Mike Williams disagreed.

"This concept was past due," said Williams. "Because it's not a safe world and it's becoming more dangerous all the time."

In one Texas border community, long lines were reported at a local courthouse as people rushed to apply for the required documents. But it remains to be seen if the new requirement will cause traffic backups at points of entry and headaches for people unaware of the looming change.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials say they're confident the transition will be smooth.

"Our research indicates approximately 80 percent of the individuals coming in now, U.S. and Canadians, are compliant," and are crossing with proof of citizenship, said Thomas Winkowski, assistant commissioner for field operations at Customs and Border Protection.

The higher noncompliance areas, he said, are primarily U.S. citizens in the southern border region.

ACROSS THE NATION

Hundreds march for gay marriage in central Calif.

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—Hundreds of same-sex couples and their supporters marched Saturday through dusty California farm towns, pushing for gay marriage in the state's conservative center. Just days after the state's highest court upheld a ban on gay marriage, advocates said they wouldn't be dissuaded, and vowed to win the hearts and minds of those who reject their unions. They pledged to put a new initiative before voters to overturn the ban—perhaps as soon as next year—and to take their message to Washington in October. The weekend-long event has attracted the movement's veteran activists and celebrities including Charlize Theron and Eric McCormack. It was organized by a lesbian mother in Fresno who was removed from the parent-teacher association at her son's Roman Catholic school after she spoke out against banning same-sex weddings.

Oregon man, 92, promoted to admiral in Polish navy

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Jerzy Tumaniszwili was a 23-year-old naval gunnery officer in the Polish navy when his destroyer left port to escape the imminent 1939 German invasion of his county. He achieved the rank of lieutenant commander while serving 5 1/2 years during World War II, chasing German U-boats and protecting troops on D-Day in 1944. Tumaniszwili emigrated to the United States after the war because he was considered an enemy by the Communist regime that had taken over Poland. Now at 92, The government is honoring him as a rear admiral in the Polish navy.

Hawaii Superferry files for bankruptcy

HONOLULU (AP)—The company running Hawaii's first interisland car and passenger service is filing for bankruptcy, two months after a state Supreme Court ruling effectively shut it down. A statement from Hawaii Superferry says the expenses of maintaining its two vessels have weighed down the company because it doesn't have any revenues. The ferry service sought charter opportunities around the world, but those efforts haven't produced results in time for the company to meet its financial obligations. The Hawaii Superferry says a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing was the unavoidable next step. The Hawaii Supreme Court ruled March 16 that a state law allowing the company to operate while an environmental study was being conducted was unconstitutional. The court said the study needed to be completed first.

Police nightmare in NY: shooting fellow officer

NEW YORK (AP)—It's a police officer's nightmare scenario: Confronting someone who appears to be an armed suspect and opening fire, only to discover that person was actually an officer not in uniform. Late Thursday, Officer Omar J. Edwards, 25, was shot by a fellow officer on a Harlem street while in street clothes. He had just finished his shift, and had his service weapon out, chasing a man who had broken into his car, police said. Three plainclothes officers on routine patrol arrived at the scene and yelled for the two to stop, police said. One officer, Andrew Dunton, opened fire and hit Edwards three times as he turned toward them with his service weapon. It wasn't until medical workers were on scene that it was determined he was a police officer. Now, investigators are working to determine whether anyone was at fault.

Asia

Pakistani army retakes largest town in Swat Valley offensives

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The Taliban have fled the Pakistani army's advance on the main town in the Swat Valley, delivering the military a strategic prize in its offensive against militants in the country's northwest, commanders said.

AP

Pakistani army tanks move toward the Kumble, a troubled area of Pakistani district Lower Dir, Saturday, May 30, 2009.

Trouble flared elsewhere in the volatile region, however, as Taliban fighters clashed with the military in various parts of the South Waziristan tribal area. Intelligence officials said Sunday that around 50 militants and two soldiers died in those overnight battles.

Taliban fighters had dug themselves into bunkers built into hotels and government buildings in Mingora, Swat's main commercial center, and initially offered stiff resistance as troops first closed roads leading to the town then began moving in earlier this week, army spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas said.

Pakistan's defense secretary said Sunday that the military operations in Swat Valley "have met almost complete success."

"Only 5 to 10 percent job is left and over the next two or three days this area will be cleared," Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Syed Athar Ali told an annual meeting of defense ministers, officials and experts in Singapore.

56 die in western Afghanistan battle

KABUL (AP)—A battle in a militant-controlled region of western Afghanistan left 30 insurgents and nine Afghan soldiers dead, while a roadside bomb in the country's north wounded an Afghan governor, officials said Saturday.

The fighting in Badghis province began Friday and continued into Saturday as Afghan troops supported by international forces killed 30 militants in Bala Murghab district—a region where the Afghan government has little control.

Nine Afghan soldiers died in the battle and four "disappeared," the Ministry of Defense said without elaborating. Violence elsewhere in the country killed 17 others, part of a spate of attacks that killed 56 people over all.

The roadside bomb detonated on the main highway in Kunduz province, and shattered glass slightly wounded Gov. Mohammad Omar, said his spokesman, Ahmad Sami Yawar. He blamed the "enemies of peace and security," a phrase that commonly refers to militants.

ASIAN BRIEFS

SKorea hosts ASEAN leaders amid NKorea tensions

SEOGWIPO, South Korea (AP) — South Korea imposed heavy security Sunday for a summit with Southeast Asian leaders following North Korean nuclear and missile tests that frayed nerves across the region. The summit venue of Seogwipo — on the island of Jeju off the southern coast — is the farthest city away from the North. Leaders of the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations began arriving for the two-day summit, which officially begins Monday. South Korean President Lee Myung-bak planned to use Sunday to hold individual meetings, including with Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva and ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan.

Britain renews call to Myanmar to release Suu Kyi

SINGAPORE (AP)—Britain renewed its call for Myanmar's military junta to release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, saying Sunday that people around the world support her and her followers' struggle for democracy. Britain's Minister for International Defense and Security Ann Taylor used a high-profile regional meeting to show solidarity with Suu Kyi, whose trial for allegedly violating the terms of her house arrest has drawn international outrage. "The people of Burma have suffered half a century of isolation and conflict," Taylor said, using the former name of Myanmar. "But Aung San Suu Kyi is not alone. People all around are standing with her and the Burmese people," she told the Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual forum of defense ministers, academics, experts and analysts. Suu Kyi's supporters fear that the military junta will use the trial to keep her in detention through next year's elections.

Australia considers resettling Gitmo detainees

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) —Australia is considering a third request from the United States to resettle Chinese Muslim detainees from the Guantanamo Bay military prison in Cuba, the country's foreign minister said Sunday. Australia twice rejected such appeals last year from former President George W. Bush. The current request—the first from President Barack Obama's administration—is to resettle 10 detainees who are Uighurs—Muslims from northwestern China—who have been in Guantanamo Bay for more than six years. The Uighurs were also the subject of Bush's two requests.

Are you 18 years or older?

Have you been providing unpaid services to family members?

Been **dependent** on the **income of another family member** but no longer supported by that income and are you **unemployed or underemployed** and experiencing difficulty **obtaining or upgrading employment?**

If you answer "YES" to all of these questions contact WIA at 664-1704/5 7& 8. You may be able to qualify for services as a Displaced Homemaker under WIA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements applies.

This community outreach is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration

CHILD CARE PROGRAM PUBLIC HEARING

This is to inform the general public that the Public Hearing for the CNMI Child Care and Development Fund or Child Care Program State Plan is scheduled for

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

at the **Multi-Purpose Hall**, Susupe.

The hearing will promptly begin at **9:00a.m.**

Copies of the State Plan may be obtained from the **Child Care Program Office**, Building Number 1347 Ascencion Ct. Capital Hill, Saipan.

World

Doctors group says rape is common vs Darfur women

NEW YORK (AP)—A survey of dozens of women who fled violence in Darfur found that a third of them reported or showed signs of rape, and revealed a widespread fear of sexual violence in their refugee camp in Chad, a human rights group reported Sunday.

About half the rapes were carried out in Darfur by janjaweed militiamen allied to the Arab-dominated government in Khartoum, and half were assaults by Chadian villagers near the U.N. refugee camp, usually when the women left to search for firewood or herd livestock, according to the report by the U.S.-based group Physicians for Human Rights.

The group reached the 88 women included in the survey through camp leaders and by word-of-mouth—a sampling method the report said hinders drawing general conclusions about the prevalence of rape in Darfur or in the Farchana refugee camp in Chad.

Recording rape or interviewing victims of sexual violence is problematic in Darfur's Muslim culture, where women fear social stigma or further trauma and sometimes recant their allegations out of shame. Further complicating the effort, women displaced inside Darfur live mostly in government-controlled areas and fear reprisal.

The issue is highly contentious for the Sudanese government, which denies any systematic rape or violence against women.

Ex-Iraqi trade minister arrested in graft case

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's former trade minister was arrested Saturday in a burgeoning corruption scandal after his plane was ordered back to Baghdad while en route to the United Arab Emirates, officials said.

The fight against corruption is emerging as a major issue in Iraq, with many Iraqis convinced that graft and government mismanagement are nearly as a great a threat to the country as armed insurgency.

Sensing public discontent, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government has seized on the issue, promising stern action against wrongdoers after having been criticized for years for inaction against corruption.

Abdul-Falah al-Sudani, who resigned this month as trade minister, is the highest profile figure arrested so far in an anti-corruption drive launched this year.

Officials rushed an arrest warrant to the Baghdad airport as soon as they learned that al-Sudani had boarded a plane for Dubai. The warrant was served as soon as the plane returned, said Rahim al-Ogaili, chairman of the government's Commission on Public Integrity.

Al-Sudani, a member of al-Maliki's Dawa party, is accused of mismanaging the Trade Ministry by importing expired foods, engaging in illegal contracts and employing relatives, said al-Ogaili.

Berlusconi moves to block publication of photos

ROME (AP)—Premier Silvio Berlusconi is fighting back in a scandal feeding on his fondness for young women, with his lawyer acknowledging Saturday the media mogul has moved to block publication of hundreds of photos taken of guests at his sumptuous Sardinian villa.

Berlusconi

State television reported that among the photos were some taken last New Year's Eve, with the guests including an 18-year-old Neapolitan woman at the heart of the political and personal scandal.

The 72-year-old Berlusconi's wife, Veronica Lario, announced a few weeks ago that she was seeking a divorce, in part because of what she lamented was her husband's infatuation with young women.

Berlusconi, speaking by telephone to an election rally in northern Italy Saturday, described himself as the victim of a campaign of "insults" he alleged was run by the center-left opposition to discredit him ahead of European Parliament elections next weekend.

The Corriere della Sera and La Stampa daily newspapers ran a photograph of what they said was a letter sent by the premier to Italy's watchdog on privacy, asking that the authorities do what is necessary to block "use or publication" of the photos.

WORLD BRIEFS

Pope Benedict says he was surprised to be chosen

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI says he was surprised when he was elected pontiff, but accepted the role even though the challenge seemed greater than his strength. Benedict was asked by a curious child at a Vatican audience with thousands of children on Saturday if he ever thought he would grow up to be come pontiff. He replied that he found it difficult to understand why the Lord would have picked him, once an "ingenuous, small town boy," for the post. But, says Benedict: "I accepted it, even though it seemed to me to be something that went beyond my strength." He also reminisced about being an altar boy when he was 8 or 9, and how he and his friends were, as he put it, "no saints," and sometimes even had fights in the small village in Germany where he grew up.

Former Greek king has heart operation in London

LONDON (AP)—Former King Constantine, the deposed monarch of Greece, has undergone a successful heart bypass operation in London, his wife says. Constantine, 68, underwent the operation Friday at a private hospital in north London, former Queen Anne-Marie said in a statement posted to her family's Web site. Constantine was Greece's monarch from 1964 until 1967, when he was deposed after a failed bid to overthrow the country's military dictatorship. A relation of Britain's royal family, he settled in London in self-imposed exile.

6 dead in internal Palestinian fighting

QALQILIYA, West Bank (AP)—Palestinian security officials say six people have been killed in a firefight between Hamas fighters and Palestinian policemen in the West Bank. The officials say three of the men are Palestinian policemen loyal to President Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah. They say two are fighters from the rival Hamas organization, and another is a civilian. The violence is the worst flare-up of Fatah-Hamas fighting yet seen in the West Bank. Bloodshed between Fatah and Hamas was common in the Gaza Strip until Hamas routed Fatah and took control of the coastal territory two years ago.

Health & Fitness

Expectant moms packing on too many extra pounds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Eating for two? New guidelines are setting how much weight women should gain during pregnancy—surprisingly little if they're already overweight.

The most important message: Get to a healthy weight before you conceive, says the Institute of Medicine in the first national recommendations on pregnancy weight since 1990. It's healthiest for the mother—less chance of pregnancy-related high blood pressure or diabetes, or the need for a C-section—and it's best for the baby, too. Babies born to overweight mothers have a greater risk of premature birth or of later becoming overweight themselves, among other concerns.

Meeting the guidelines could be a tall order, considering that about 55 percent of women of childbearing age are overweight, that preconception care isn't that common and about half of pregnancies are unplanned.

Once a woman's pregnant, the guidelines issued Thursday aren't too different from what obstetricians already recommend, although about half of women don't follow that advice today.

Among the new recommendations:

■ A normal-weight woman, as measured by BMI or body mass index, should gain between 25 and 35 pounds during pregnancy. A normal BMI, a measure of weight for height, is between 18.5 and 24.9.

■ An overweight woman—BMI 25 to 29.9—should gain 15 to 25 pounds during pregnancy.

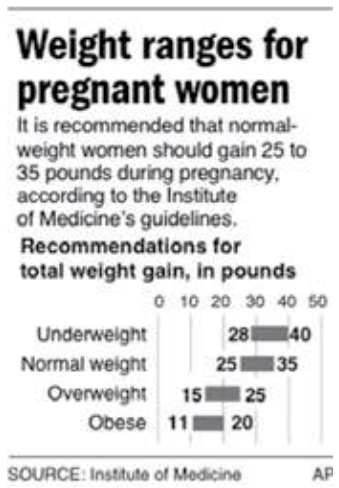
■ For the first time, the guidelines set a standard for obese women—BMI of 30 or higher: 11 to 20 pounds.

■ An underweight woman—BMI less than 18.5—should gain 28 to 40 pounds.

What if a mom-to-be has gained too much? On average, overweight and obese women already are gaining five more pounds than the upper limit.

But pregnancy is not a time to lose weight, stressed guidelines co-author Dr. Anna Maria Siega-Riz of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

"It's not, 'Hey you gained enough, now you need to stop,'" Siega-Riz said. "Let's take stock of where you're at and start gaining correctly."


Weight ranges for pregnant women
It is recommended that normal-weight women should gain 25 to 35 pounds during pregnancy, according to the Institute of Medicine's guidelines.
Recommendations for total weight gain, in pounds
0 10 20 30 40 50
Underweight 28 40
Normal weight 25 35
Overweight 15 25
Obese 11 20
SOURCE: Institute of Medicine
AP

Indeed, underweight and normal-weight mothers should put on a pound a week for proper fetal growth in the second and third trimesters, the guidelines say. The overweight and obese need about half a pound a week.

Hopping on the scale during prenatal checkups makes for a sensitive moment, especially in a culture that cherishes the stereotype of late-night ice cream-and-pickles snacks.

Implementing the guidelines may take a move "to change the whole culture about pregnancy" and eating, Siega-Riz said. She noted that in studies of the overweight, "most of these women will tell you that they've never been told how much weight to gain."

The guidelines call for increased nutrition and exercise counseling during pregnancy, saying doctors or midwives may need to consult a dietitian to tailor a woman's care no matter her starting weight. Also, providers should discuss whether a woman plans to breastfeed, which not only is optimal for the baby but helps the new mother shed pounds, too.

"It's really a teachable moment," said guidelines co-author Dr. Patrick Catalano, obstetrics chairman at Ohio's Case Western Reserve University. "When women are pregnant, they may be more accepting" of weight discussions "because it's also in the best interest of their babies."

Obstetricians, who have struggled with how to advise heavier women as U.S. obesity rates have soared over the past two decades, welcomed the guidelines—especially the recognition that babies born too large tend to grow into overweight children at risk for their own health problems. Not too many years ago it was rare to see a 9-pound, or larger, newborn.

"Pregnant women should not be eating for two," said Dr. Ellen J. Landsberger, who specializes in high-risk pregnancies at New York's Montefiore Medical Center. "You want a healthy baby? On both ends, you have to eat the right amount."

But is it realistic for obese women to gain as little as 11 pounds?

"We think it's possible. We also think it will be a challenge," said Cornell University nutrition specialist Dr. Kathleen Rasmussen, who chaired the Institute of Medicine committee.

Expert advice on strokes, their risk factors

By LIZ ATWOOD
(C) 2009, THE BALTIMORE SUN

More than 140,000 people in the U.S. die each year from stroke, making it the country's second leading cause of death for women, and the third for men. About 795,000 strokes occur each year. At least one-quarter occur in people younger than 65, making it a health subject important to several age groups.

Dr. Marian LaMonte, neurology chief at St. Agnes Hospital in Baltimore offers the following advice about strokes.

■ Know the warning signs of stroke. These include sudden weakness or numbness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden loss of vision in one or both eyes; sudden trouble speaking or confusion; sudden trouble walking or loss of balance or coordination; sudden severe headache.

■ Call 911 as soon as you notice any of the stroke warning signs and get to the nearest hospital by ambulance. It is important to seek immediate medical attention. Stroke is an emergency.

■ Advocate for treatment with TPA, the clot-buster drug, in the emergency department. This treatment reduces the disability from stroke and increases the chance that you could be free of any symptoms three months from your stroke.

■ Know and treat your own personal risk factors for heart disease and stroke. Common risk factors include high blood pressure and cholesterol; diabetes; smoking; excess alcohol or illicit drug use; and known heart disease. Work with your doctor to keep these under control.

■ It is important to eat fresh food—not packaged or fast food—and to exercise daily. Being inactive, obese or both can increase your risk of high blood pressure, high cholesterol and stroke. You should get at least 30 minutes of activity a day.

Life & Style

Dream over: Boyle finishes second in reality show

AP

Locals gather at Blackburn, Scotland, community center to watch Susan Boyle on TV during the final of "Britain's Got Talent" on Saturday May 30, 2009.

By JENNIFER QUINN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LONDON (AP)—She gave a final curtsey, a shimmy of her hips, and walked off stage, leaving the winners to perform an encore. But it's unlikely that finishing second on "Britain's Got Talent" Saturday night to a dance troupe called "Diversity" will be the end of Susan Boyle's showbiz dream.

The 48-year-old church volunteer became an Internet phenomenon after she auditioned for the television talent show, her show-stopping voice combining with her frumpy appearance to make her a must-see on YouTube.

For the finals, she returned to the song that made her famous, "I Dreamed a Dream" from the musical "Les Miserables." She wore a glamorous but modest sparkly floor-length dress, and her once-grey frizzy hair was a soft brown halo.

She appeared more polished and animated than in previous performances, but seemed uncomfortable during banter with the judges after her song. Judge Simon Cowell said Boyle had a rough brush with fame, but that she was "a nice, shy person who wants a break."

The week leading up to Saturday's performance had been a tumultuous one for Boyle. She lost her cool during a confrontation with two reporters, and the police intervened. Another contest judge said Boyle had contemplated pulling out of the program to soothe her frazzled nerves.

"A lot of people said you shouldn't even be in this competition, that you weren't equipped to deal with it," Cowell said. "I totally disagree with that.

"You had the guts to come back here and face your critics and you beat them."

Asked about her career plans after the show, Boyle told broadcaster ITV that she hoped to get an album out, and will "just play it by ear."

Millions tuned in to the live program and voted by telephone afterward.

Boyle's hometown of Blackburn, Scotland—a working-class village about 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of Edinburgh—rallied round her, stringing up signs declaring their support. Her defeat was greeted with shouts of "no" and gasps of disbelief at the Happy Valley Hotel, where neighbors and friends had gathered to watch the program.

"She lost because people didn't bother voting for her because they thought she was going to win it," lamented 21-year-old Gordon Mackenzie. "I didn't vote for her because I thought everyone else would."

Boyle was up against a host of everyman acts determined to find stardom on reality television, including a 12-year-old whose voice was compared to Michael Jackson's, an 11-year-old body-popping dancer, and a grandfather-grandaughter singing duo.

Winning group "Diversity" are a 10-person dance troupe who range in age from 12 to 25-years-old. Their act won praise throughout the competition, but they weren't seen as front-runners. Their victory earned them 100,000 pounds ($159,000), and the right to perform for Queen Elizabeth II at the Royal Variety Show in December.

First couple's NY date: a campaign promise kept

NEW YORK (AP)—President Barack Obama made good on a campaign promise to his most important supporter Saturday night - his wife, Michelle.

The president and first lady jetted to a date in New York late Saturday afternoon, aides and media in tow.

"I am taking my wife to New York City because I promised her during the campaign that I would take her to a Broadway show after it was all finished," the president said in a statement an aide read to the press.

After dining a little more than two hours at Blue Hill, a West Village restaurant touted by New York magazine as a "seminal Greenmarket haven" that features food grown by chef and owner Dan Barber on his upstate farm, the president and first lady headed to the Belasco Theater to make it in time for "Joe Turner's Come and Gone."

The play by August Wilson is about black America in the early 1900s, with residents of a boarding-house recalling their migration from the sharecropping farms of the South to the industrialized North.

As the motorcade left the West Village and drove up Sixth Avenue to the theater, crowds of people, at times about eight deep, gathered on the sidewalks of the blockaded streets to wave as the Obamas passed. Some cheered. Cab drivers opened their doors and stood on the frames of their taxis to glimpse the president and first lady.

AP

President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama walk towards Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., en route to New York where they will have a private dinner and attend a play, Saturday, May 30, 2009.

The Obamas left the theater after the play and were greeted by more cheers from enthusiastic bystanders along New York streets as they headed back for the flight to Washington.

The White House declined to say how much the trip was costing taxpayers, and even before the smaller jet left Washington, the there-and-back trip drew criticism from the Republican National Committee. The RNC issued a news release that chastised Obama for saying he understands American's troubles, but then hopping up to New York for "a night on the town."

Noting that General Motors is expected to file for Chapter 11 protection on Monday, the news release said: "Putting on a show: Obamas wing into the city for an evening out while another iconic American company prepares for bankruptcy."

In an interview before his inauguration, Barack Obama said he and his wife like having "date nights," usually on Fridays. Since moving to Washington, the Obamas have managed to fit in at least a few nights out in the nation's capital.

While on a trip to New York last week, Michelle Obama was reminded about the couple's first date.

"You know, after 20-some-odd years of knowing a guy, you forget that your first date was at a museum," she said. "But it was, and it was obviously wonderful. It worked."

Before traveling to New York, the Obamas watched daughter Malia's soccer game for an hour Saturday morning.

Leno hands off 'Tonight' to 'perfect choice' Conan

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—It was a homespun farewell for Jay Leno's last show at "Tonight."

Celebrities were largely absent and the self-effacing comedian said he wanted to be remembered for the children born to his staffers during his 17-year tenure as the show's second-longest running host.

Leno

He even posed with all 68 of them, from babies to teenagers.

"That's what I'd like my legacy to be," Leno said, his voice thickened by emotion. "When these kids grow up and they go, `Hey, mom and dad, where did you guys meet?', they're going to say they met on the stage of `The Tonight Show.'"

The show also included jabs at favorite targets, including politicians and his own network. He noted proudly that he took over the top-rated late-night show from Johnny Carson and was passing it on with the same No. 1 ranking to Conan O'Brien, who begins as host Monday.

"Which means I get my security deposit back," quipped Leno.

Leno received a chilly reception when he beat out Carson favorite David Letterman for the "Tonight" job in 1992.

Carson, who was host for a record 30 years, taught him that no matter what happens in the world the host has to have a nightly monologue, "because that's your job," Leno said.

Giving O'Brien a pre-debut boost, Leno welcomed him as his final guest.

"You were the perfect choice. You've been an absolute gentlemen in private and in the press," Leno told O'Brien, lauding him for his "sharp" material.

"Conan rocks," a studio audience member shouted. "I agree, Conan rocks," Leno replied.

A clip was shown from 1993, when the 30-year-old O'Brien, a TV newcomer, appeared on "Tonight" hours after being signed to host "Late Night."

Leno, his hair dark then and gray now, was ushered on stage Friday with a Jimi Hendrix-flavored version of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by bandleader Kevin Eubanks.

"Welcome to the exciting season finale of `The Tonight Show,'" said Leno, greeted by a standing ovation. "I want to thank all the people who made it possible: Michael Jackson, Monica Lewinsky and Bill Clinton."

After noting that former Presidents Clinton and George W. Bush were participating in a joint speaking engagement in Canada, Leno remarked wistfully: "I wish I had one more day."

He didn't refrain from mocking his network although he's moving to NBC's prime-time schedule this fall.

His new show represents a gamble, Leno said: "I'm betting NBC will be around in three months. That's not a given."

Leno also fit in a last shot at O.J. Simpson, another monologue favorite. In cleaning out his office, the comedian said, "I found O.J.'s knife. I had it the whole time."

He did his now-customary one-liners about the sour economy, and then paid tribute to the late Rodney Dangerfield, the routine's inspiration, with old "Tonight" clips.

Other than James Taylor, who performed "Sweet Baby James," celebrities were absent from the final show, which favored by-the-people comedy instead.

There was a lengthy "Best of Jaywalking" segment, highlights of Leno asking people on the street questions about history and other topics. A sample: A woman correctly said the first man to land on the moon was Armstrong, but when asked his first name offered "Louie," not Neil.

Prince Harry plays polo on 1st official trip to US

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Prince Harry reminded New Yorkers on Saturday how much his mother had loved their city, then climbed onto a pony for a rousing game of polo to raise money for impoverished children in Africa.

On a brilliantly sunny day on Governors Island in New York Harbor, the 24-year-old prince drew a crowd that included stars like Madonna, actresses Kate Hudson and Chloe Sevigny, and rapper LL Cool J, but also lots of ordinary New Yorkers out for a rare sight: a polo game in the city.

"You see this out in the Hamptons, but not so much in the city," said Vincent Hodgins of Manhattan, who brought his two sons to watch the prince play.

The Veuve Clicquot Manhattan Polo Classic was a fundraiser for Sentebale, the charity that Harry has set up with Prince Seeiso of Lesotho to help poor children and AIDS orphans in that small African nation surrounded by South Africa.

"Prince Seeiso and I both lost our mothers when we were very young," Harry said in brief remarks before the match. "We set up Sentebale in their memory, and because my mother loved this city, it makes this occasion all the more poignant for me."

His team, named after the charity, proceeded to defeat the opposing Black Watch team 6-5. Harry assisted on the winning goal in the last seconds, drawing the biggest cheer of the afternoon. Both teams included prominent polo stars like Argentine Nacho Figueras, also a Ralph Lauren model, who played for Black Watch.

AP

Prince Harry of Wales smiles after being sprayed with champagne following the second annual Veuve Clicquot Manhattan Polo Classic polo match on Governor's Island in New York Saturday May 30, 2009.

It was the second and final day of Harry's first official visit to the United States, which began with a sober visit Friday to the site of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. On Saturday morning, the prince toured Harlem's Children Zone, a community organization that offers families social and educational services. He and Prince Seeiso chatted with students working preparing for a Regents Exam.

"Who's the best pupil?" Harry asked the ninth-graders. "I was always the worst!"

Harry, the son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, is third in line to the British throne, after his father and older brother, William. He's been dubbed the "party prince," and his New York trip seemed designed partly to counter that image with a focus on his charity work.

"I won't bore you with statistics, but please believe me when I say that Lesotho is a mere microcosm of what is so wonderful, but also so tragic about Africa today," he said before the match, reading from notes. "This beautiful kingdom has been ravaged by HIV/AIDS and poverty, leaving thousands of children without their parents."

The event was free to the public, but guests in the VIP tent on the opposite side of the field had paid from $50,000 a table down to $500 a head to picnic on the lawn. In true polo-watching fashion, there were more hats than at an Easter parade; for the women, they were topped by flowers, feathers and even butterflies climbing up a wire trellis.

Harry, though, was casual before the match in a navy blue blazer, open-collared shirt and white jeans, and loafers. And Madonna, accompanied by her sons, Rocco and David, was positively dressed down: She wore jeans and a denim jacket as she chatted with designer Marc Jacobs.

In the bleachers, Mike Hallman, visiting the city from Cary, N.C., enjoyed the match with his family. "My kids have never seen polo before," he said. Added his 9-year-old son, Jason: "It's pretty exciting. I have never seen a prince."

Bong! Big Ben rings in its 150th anniversary

LONDON (AP)—Defiantly low-tech yet accurate to the second, Big Ben is having its 150th birthday Sunday, its Victorian chimes carrying the sound of Britain into the 21st century.

It's a birthday the world can share in. The peals of London's favorite clock are carried globally by BBC radio, and its 315-foot tower, roughly 16 stories, is the city's most famous landmark.

But getting inside and seeing Big Ben, the sonorous main bell that gives its name to the whole contraption, isn't easy. Security measures mean few are granted admission, and there's no elevator, so those who are escorted in must climb 334 winding limestone stairs.

Catherine Moss, who took journalists on a pre-anniversary tour, said that in one year as a Big Ben guide, she had climbed the height of Everest three times over.

"It's my own private step machine," the trim-looking 51-year-old called down from the top of the tower.

No special events are planned, aside from an exhibition opening Sept. 19 in the nearby parliamentary offices.

Although the tan-colored tower above the Houses of Parliament is covered in a riot of gilt crowns, sculpted masonry and coats of arms, the interior looks functional. The 4.2 meter- (14 foot-) long minute hand casts a faint shadow over the pale white glass of the dial. The 5-ton (5.6-U.S. ton) clock mechanism, like a giant wristwatch, is wound three times a week. In the age of atomic clocks, its near-perfect time is regulated by heavy old pennies laid on or removed from the pendulum.

The chimes, supposedly based on four notes from Handel's "Messiah," ring out every quarter hour from the intricately ornamented belfry. The bongs of Big Ben itself are heard every hour.

It is rare—and a matter of citywide consternation—for the clock to go mute. But wars and accidents happen. Initial construction was one disaster after another, and in 1916 the chimes were stopped for two years lest they guide German bomber zeppelins to the parliament building.

Carried on BBC radio since 1924, the chimes took on added significance in World War II. Every night Britons observed a minute's silence as the clock struck nine. It was called the Big Ben Minute. Even as German bombs fell and air raid sirens howled, Big Ben's voice was heard.

The solemn chimes were a metaphor for Britons unflappable under fire, says Tam Dalyell, 76, a former lawmaker.

"It's defiant," Dalyell said in a telephone interview from his home in Scotland. "It's a sign of confidence and undaunted spirit."

On the night of May 10, 1941, an air raid wrecked the parliament building, sending up flames as high as the belfry. A small explosive shattered the clock's south dial and damaged stonework, but the clock didn't skip a second.

Its durability was "as great a boost to the morale of the British people as the speeches of Winston Churchill," according to Peter MacDonald, the author of "Big Ben: The Bell, the Clock and the Tower."

Moss, the tour guide, said she sees it in the faces of Blitz survivors who visit the tower.

She recalls a woman who lost her father in the war and was crying. "The sound of the bell means everything to her. And to stand up here, over 80 years of age, and to see it, she just ... tears. And she's not the only one; a lot of people cry when they hear the bell."

But the clock and tower got off to a bad start. Construction was marred by delays, budget overruns and bureaucratic squabbling. The tower proved too small for the clock machinery. The 16.25-ton (18.2-U.S. ton) copper and tin main bell had to be scrapped when it cracked during testing. It was forged anew, slimmed down, and painstakingly hoisted to the top of the tower. Meanwhile, the minute hands had to be replaced—twice—because the first two sets were so heavy they couldn't circle the tower's dials.

On May 31, 1859 the clock officially started keeping time. Big Ben—the origin of the name is disputed—started tolling a few days later, but within months it cracked again and didn't resume service until 1862.

At first lawmakers complained that it was too loud, while the Times of London lamented that the blunders surrounding the project were "a disgrace to all concerned in it."

Phil Spector sentenced, may spend life in prison

LOS ANGELES (AP)—There was no soundtrack for the final scene of pop maestro Phil Spector's criminal case.

Spector, 69, said nothing as he was sentenced Friday to 19 years to life in prison for the second-degree murder of Lana Clarkson, a one-time B-movie actress who was shot through the mouth in Spector's castle-like mansion six years ago.

Now Spector, the difficult genius whose "Wall of Sound" production technique turned pop songs into mini-symphonies in the 1960s, may spend the rest of his life in prison.

Spector, who would not be eligible for parole until he is 88, showed no emotion before being led away to prison.

Spector's lawyers spent two trials and millions of dollars arguing that Clarkson killed herself while battling depression. They vowed to appeal.

His family seemed as divided as the jurors who had deadlocked at his first trial.

"This is a sad day for everybody involved," said Spector's 28-year-old wife, Rachelle. "The Clarkson family has lost a daughter and a sister. I've lost my husband, my best friend. I feel that a grave injustice has been done and from this day forward I'm going to dedicate myself to proving my husband's innocence."

"I'm torn about this," said Spector's son, Louis. "I'm losing my father who is going to spend his life in jail. At the same time, justice is served."

Superior Court Judge Larry Fidler sentenced Spector to the mandatory 15 years to life in prison, added a four-year enhancement for personal use of a gun and imposed more than $26,000 in restitution fees.

Spector's attorney, Doron Weinberg, asked that his client quickly be transferred from Los Angeles County jail to a state prison.

Weinberg said Spector had surgery this week for precancerous polyps on his vocal cords and correctional authorities are prepared to deal with his multiple medical issues.

"The faster he can get to his ultimate destination, he can get organized and start to live the rest of his life," Weinberg said. "He will be a very high-profile inmate and there's a question of how others will treat him."

In his heyday in the early and mid-1960s, Spector produced dozens of hits, including The Ronette's "Be My Baby," The Crystals' "Da Doo Ron Ron" and The Righteous Brothers' classic, "You've Lost that Lovin' Feelin.'" Spector also worked on the Beatles album "Let It Be" and John Lennon's album, "Imagine."

His "Wall of Sound" used orchestrations and sometimes dozens of microphones to producer a dense, echoing sound that influenced everyone from The Beach Boys to Bruce Springsteen.

But Spector also had a troubled reputation. In the 1970s, he got probation for possessing and brandishing a gun. Singer Leonard Cohen once said the producer held a gun to his chest.

Clarkson, 40, didn't know Spector's musical legacy when she met him only hours before she died at his Alhambra "castle" in February 2003. The star of Roger Corman's 1985 cult film classic "Barbarian Queen" was working as a hostess at the House of Blues nightclub on the Sunset Strip, where she had to be told by a manager that Spector was an important man.

She was later found at his mansion in suburban Alhambra, slumped in a chair in a foyer. A gun had been fired in her mouth.

Spector's chauffeur, the key witness, said he heard a gunshot, then saw Spector emerge holding a gun and heard him say: "I think I killed somebody."

Ozzy sues in NYC over Black Sabbath name

NEW YORK (AP)—Ozzy Osbourne has accused former Black Sabbath band mate Tony Iommi of taking over the heavy metal titans' name and costing him royalties from merchandise sales.

Osbourne, who sued the guitarist earlier this week, issued a statement Friday imploring him to "do the right thing."

"Tony, I am so sorry it's had to get to this point by me having to take this action against you," the singer-turned-reality show star said.

But, he added, "we've all worked too hard and long in our careers to allow you to sell merchandise that features all our faces, old Black Sabbath album covers and band logos, and then you tell us that you own the copyright."

Osbourne, who lives in California, filed suit Tuesday in a federal court in New York, saying Iommi falsely claimed to have sole rights to Black Sabbath's trademark in negotiations over the last year with a company that sells the band's merchandise. As a result, the lawsuit says, Osbourne has lost royalties formerly split 50/50.

Osbourne

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages, lost profits and a declaration that Osbourne is a half-owner of the trademark.

Iommi's representative and lawyers who have represented him didn't immediately respond to telephone and e-mail messages late Friday.

Osbourne's lawsuit reads at times like liner notes to a greatest-hits album, describing the case as "a dispute concerning one of the most famous and valuable names in the history of rock and roll."

The band, known for its apocalyptic bent and such hits as "Iron Man" and "Paranoid," has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. It made a star - and a spectacle - of Osbourne and his from-the-crypt howl before he was fired in 1979.

"To fans of heavy metal music," Osbourne's lawsuit says, "Ozzy has become synonymous with Black Sabbath."

But Iommi, considered one of heavy metal's guitar greats, noted in a separate lawsuit filed against the merchandise firm in December that he has been the only constant member in the English band's 41-year history. Court records show that lawsuit, which doesn't involve Osbourne, was settled Wednesday on undisclosed terms.

Iommi, who registered the Black Sabbath trademark in the U.S. in 2000, also said in the lawsuit that co-founders Osbourne, bassist Geezer Butler and drummer Bill Ward legally relinquished rights to the band's name in the 1980s.

Jolie hospitalized, released after head bump

NEW YORK (AP)—A spokesman for Columbia Pictures says Angelina Jolie is back on the set of her latest movie after a brief trip to the hospital for a minor bump to the head.

Jolie sustained the injury Friday while filming an action sequence on Long Island in New York, where her upcoming thriller "Salt" is being shot.

Studio Spokesman Steve Elzer says the actress was taken to a local hospital, examined and released as a precautionary measure.

Elzer says she was back on the set Friday and production has resumed.

AP

In this May 20, 2009 file photo, Angelina Jolie arrives for a screening of the film "Inglourious Basterds", during the 62nd International film festival in Cannes, southern France.

Shanty of 'Slumdog' star spared in new demolition

MUMBAI, India (AP)—City authorities demolished the homes around the recently rebuilt shack of "Slumdog Millionaire" child star Azharuddin Mohammed Ismail but left his standing Saturday.

A bulldozer and about 30 men leveled about 18 shanties in the section of the Garib Nagar—"city of the poor"—slum where Azhar, 10, and his family live. They left another dozen partially standing.

Azhar's was untouched.

The city tore down the same homes, including Azhar's, 16 days ago. The next week, authorities leveled the nearby lane where "Slumdog" co-star Rubina Ali lived.

By Saturday, most residents in Garib Nagar had finished rebuilding their makeshift shacks, often by taking out high-interest loans from local moneylenders.

Azhar's father, Mohammed Ismail, said their home was spared because authorities knew about his son's role in the Oscar-winning movie.

"Azhar has got an award. They respect that. I appreciate it. When they first demolished our house, they didn't know," Ismail said as he sat in the shack, recently tacked together from sheets of cheap metal, torn tarpaulins and blankets.

The state's top official on Friday granted government apartments to both Azhar and Rubina, paid for with funds from the local chapter of the ruling Congress party. "Slumdog" filmmakers have also promised them homes. The families are now trying to figure out if they'll be able to keep both.

Azhar said he'd like two apartments—one for himself and one for his parents—but also wants all his neighbors to get houses too.

"Before giving me a home, they should give it to my friends," he said.

Eight-year-old Mahejbin Qureshi stood near a pile of broken boards and bent nails, all that remained of her home after a bulldozer shoved it into the fetid river that runs through Garib Nagar.

"They broke my home," she said, tears streaming down her face as she held her baby brother in her arms.

U.D. Mistry, an official with the city's Bombay Municipal Corporation, said the huts were destroyed because they were illegal. He said Azhar's was spared because his family can prove they lived in Garib Nagar before 1995, which gives them some property rights.

Pa. labor officials probing 'Jon & Kate' complaint

WERNERSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—In a cold dose of reality for reality TV, Pennsylvania's Labor Department has opened an investigation into whether the hit show "Jon & Kate Plus 8" is complying with state child labor laws.

The TLC series about two parents raising 8-year-old twins and 5-year-old sextuplets drew nearly 10 million viewers for its fifth-season premiere Monday—more than double the audience for its fourth-season finale several weeks ago—following media reports that the parents, Jon and Kate Gosselin, had cheated on each other. They denied it, but conceded their marriage is in trouble.

TLC said Friday it "fully complies" with state laws and regulations.

The Labor Department received a complaint against the show and is "gathering information" from its representatives, department spokesman Justin Fleming told The Associated Press. Fleming would not say when the complaint was filed or who filed it.

The fact a complaint is being investigated doesn't necessarily mean the department believes the show did anything wrong.

"Any complaint we get, we investigate," Fleming said.

Child actors and other young performers are protected by Pennsylvania labor law, but it's not clear whether the law applies to reality TV. Investigators will have to decide whether the Gosselins' house in southeastern Pennsylvania is essentially a TV set where producers direct much of the action—in which case the law may apply—or if it's a home where the kids aren't really working but are simply living their lives, albeit in front of the cameras.

Boss and his assistant differ on who deserves a thank-you

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I work as an administrative assistant for a company in Louisville. Each year we invite several "high-level" customers to attend the Kentucky Derby. We spare no expense on this event, paying for hotels, track tickets, food, drinks, limos, etc. for three full days.

Last year, my boss told me he was "disappointed" that I had not thought of sending thank-you notes to our guests after the event. He felt we should thank them for taking time away from their personal lives to visit us.

I say that after three days of running myself silly behind the scenes, the thank-you notes should come from them. Your opinion, please.

WHO THANKS WHO IN KENTUCKY

DEAR WHO THANKS WHO: I understand your frustration because no one wants to be taken for granted, but you are confusing business etiquette with social etiquette. Your boss isn't entertaining those people because he likes them. He is doing it so they will return the favor by doing business with his company.

So please do what he says and start writing. A form letter, individually prepared for each client, should do the trick. Each one should be a signed original expressing the sentiments your boss would like to have conveyed.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Mary" for 18 months, and I was really starting to fall for her. Things were going well until three weeks ago, when she informed me that she has a serious gambling problem. She has maxed out her credit cards and has no money left in her savings. Until this point, Mary had given me the impression that she was someone I could trust and that she was in control of her life.

I am in total shock and very upset about the fact that she has misrepresented herself to me. She said she didn't want to lose me. She says that even though we're not married, every relationship has its ups and downs, and a piece of paper should not define commitment.

Some of my friends say I should never see her again as she is manipulative. Others say continuing the relationship depends on how I feel about her. While I can forgive her, I am having a problem with the issue of trust.

Abby, given the circumstances, do you feel this is someone I can trust? My gut tells me buyer beware.

ON THE FENCE IN NEVADA

DEAR ON THE FENCE: Has Mary made any effort to seek help for her gambling problem? If the answer is no—and I suspect it is—then listen to your gut. Listen to your head. And if you have any doubt that they're leading you in the right direction, listen to what your lawyer and accountant have to say about the risk of pursuing this relationship further.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Many friends approach me for advice. I want to help them. It's in my nature to be helpful. However, there are times when I'm out of advice and just want to close the door. How can I continue to help, but also close the door without putting someone off?

ADVISER IN INDIANA

DEAR ADVISER: Recognize that a fountain of advice must occasionally shut down for servicing and preventive maintenance. In your case, what you're trying to prevent is burnout. A friend will understand if you say, "I'd love to help, but I'm fresh out of ideas today—let's talk about something else."

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

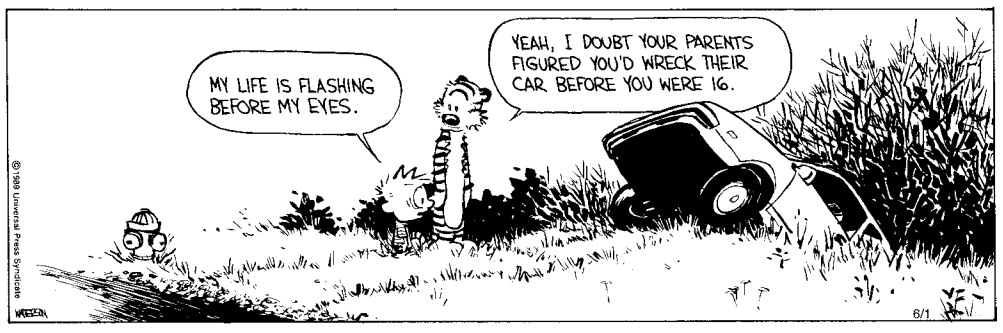
■■■

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

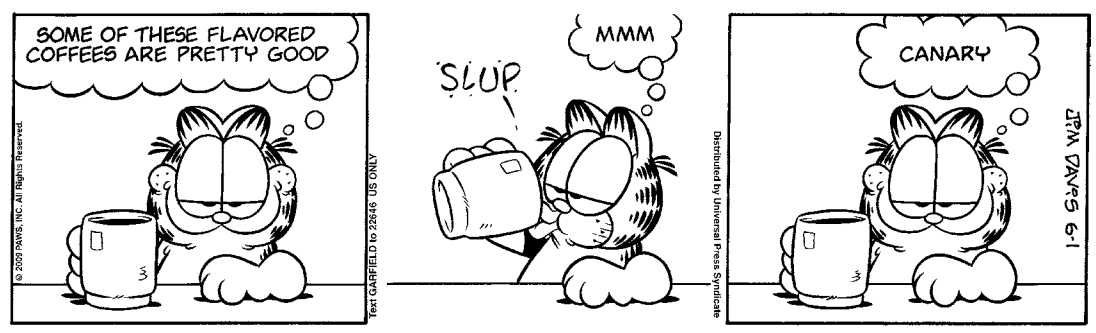
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MY LIFE IS FLASHING BEFORE MY EYES.
YEAH, I DOUBT YOUR PARENTS FIGURED YOU'D WRECK THEIR CAR BEFORE YOU WERE 16.
© 1989 Universal Press Syndicate
6/1

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


SOME OF THESE FLAVORED COFFEES ARE PRETTY GOOD
© 2009 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Text GARFIELD to 22646 US ONLY
SLUP
MMM
CANARY
JIM DAVIS 6-1
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

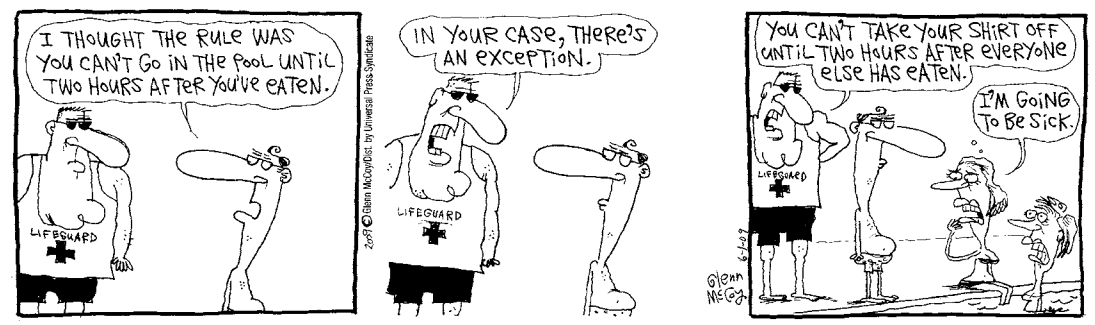
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

LAURA, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE MINIVAN.
WE'RE NOT GETTING A CORVETTE, ADAM. WE'VE HAD THIS...
NO, I MEAN THE BRAKES FEEL A BIT OFF.
SO, TAKE IT IN TO THE SHOP.
I WOULD, BUT EVER SINCE CHARLIE RETIRED, I DON'T LIKE GOING IN THERE.
WHY NOT?
WOULD YOU THINK LESS OF ME IF I TOLD YOU I WAS SCARED?
IMPOSSIBLE.
www.gocomics.com
© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I THOUGHT THE RULE WAS YOU CAN'T GO IN THE POOL UNTIL TWO HOURS AFTER YOU'VE EATEN.
IN YOUR CASE, THERE'S AN EXCEPTION.
LIFEGUARD
2007 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
YOU CAN'T TAKE YOUR SHIRT OFF UNTIL TWO HOURS AFTER EVERYONE ELSE HAS EATEN.
I'M GOING TO BE SICK.
Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

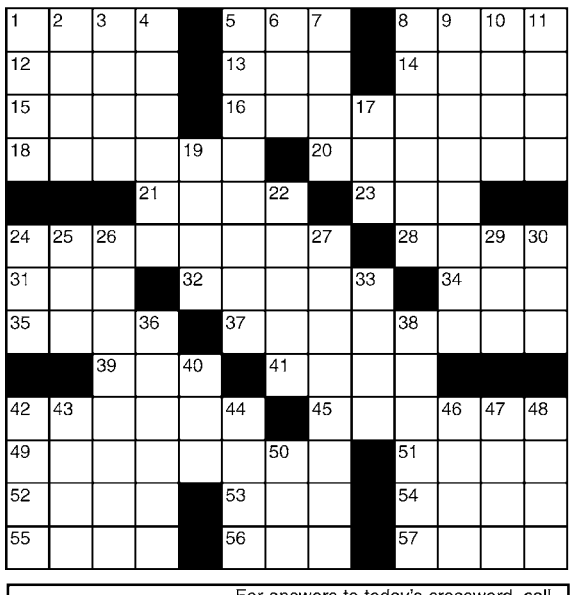
ACROSS
1 Neatnik's bane
5 Navigation aid
8 Small plateau
12 Hippocratic, e.g.
13 Blackbird
14 Previous nights
15 Wound reminder
16 Lunchbox occupant, usually
18 Tears to smithereens
20 Culpable
21 Cry
23 Conclusion
24 "Chicago Poems" writer
28 Suitable
31 Ostrich's cousin
32 Attempted
34 Away from WSW
35 Grand story
37 Resin used in making varnish
39 Drunkard
41 Intend
42 Noah's mountain
45 "Monty —"
49 Where the Chargers play
51 Rabbit
52 Not pizzicato
53 Modern prefix
54 Greek vowels
55 Hammerhead part
56 — Aviv
57 Thaw

DOWN
1 Rolling stone's lack
2 Apiece
3 Luminary
4 Crafty
5 Rubbers?
6 Literary collection
7 Pong preceder
8 Kitten's commentary
9 Villain
10 Denomination
11 Wan
17 Payable
19 Amount owed
22 Trojan War king
24 Glimpse
25 Rock band's need
26 Pest
27 Interbreeding data
29 — budget
30 Year-end abbr.
33 Crucial time
36 Rope (off)
38 Country song?
40 Skater Babilonia
42 Pronto, on a memo
43 Exceptional
44 Circus covering
46 Loathe
47 Exam format
48 Egg container
50 "Golly!"

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	C	A	G	E	D	■	C	A	S	T	L	E
G	A	M	E	T	E	■	A	D	O	R	E	D
A	R	E	N	A	S	■	L	I	N	I	N	G
M	E	N	U	■	T	I	L	E	■	A	T	E
■	■	■	S	P	I	N	■	U	R	N	■	■
E	N	S	■	A	N	A	G	■	O	G	R	E
L	I	T	T	L	E	B	O	Y	B	L	U	E
F	L	A	W	■	D	I	N	E	■	E	T	C
■	■	M	O	B	■	N	E	A	T	■	■	■
A	L	F	■	R	U	D	D	■	O	R	E	S
L	O	O	K	E	R	■	O	R	N	A	T	E
E	R	R	I	N	G	■	W	H	E	N	C	E
S	E	D	A	T	E	■	N	O	R	T	H	■

Saturday's answer 6-1



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alanis Morissette, 35; Rene Auberjonois, 69; Morgan Freeman, 72; Andy Griffith, 83

Happy Birthday: Don't let socializing take away from what needs to be accomplished this year. There will be lots of time to play, once your work is done. Don't let someone else's uncertainty or confusion upset your plans. A proactive attitude will set a standard that will be difficult for others to match. Your numbers are 2, 16, 18, 22, 26, 35, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Surprise everyone with your talent and sheer determination to strike it big. You can make your mark and set a new standard. Expect the unexpected and be ready to take advantage of any opportunity. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You are in the right place. Perfection coupled with a persuasive tone in your voice will do wonders for what you want to accomplish. A serious change will enable you to move up in the world, professionally and personally. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let the little things get you down or disappointment set in because of someone else. Set your own standards and eventually others will see how masterful you are. If you can dream it, you can become it. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Changes at home may not be to your liking at first but, if you are patient and let things take a natural course, you will realize the alterations will enhance your world. A part time job that you can do from home will help you out. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): A change of scenery may be what you need to jumpstart your imagination or get you thinking. Don't get down because you don't like what you are being asked to do. Don't begrudge the steps required to get ahead. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Express how serious you feel about what's happening around you and you can make a difference. You can develop a better relationship with both your personal and professional friends. Think beyond what's being asked of you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Just do what you have to do and get on with the things that bring you greater pleasure. Pull out some of your old ideas and find a way to implement them. Make travel plans to visit someone or someplace that will bring you peace of mind. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A partnership will need a little tweaking. Take the time to talk through matters of concern. Change is necessary but how you go about it will make a difference. Love can take on a very unusual twist. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Set your game plan in motion and strive to get everything you promised out of the way. If you falter now, the people you are dealing with will lose faith in you. A romantic relationship will open up a door you least expect. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't be fooled by someone's generosity or compliments. Look beyond what's being offered to see if there are future benefits. Rely on the facts not hearsay. You'll gain power if you take conservative action. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Adjust your lifestyle to accommodate something you want to pursue. Start small and work your way into something that can help turn your life around. Don't be fooled by someone's promises. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Emotional issues will take over, leading you into some interesting discussions that can shape your future. You'll have a chance to follow a path you've always wanted to venture down. Be willing to make your move quickly if you don't want to have regrets. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are solid, dedicated and true to your beliefs. You change your mind and your plans impulsively and are a master at surprises. You are a participant.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		3	6		1	4		
	7	6	4		8	9	1	
1			2		3			7
	3						8	
	6			1			9	
	1						5	
6			1		4			2
	4	1	9		5	6	7	
		8	3		7	1		

Difficulty Level ★ 6/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	1	4	6	2	5	9	7
5	2	7	3	1	9	4	8	6
6	4	9	5	7	8	2	3	1
7	5	6	8	4	3	9	1	2
2	9	8	1	5	6	7	4	3
3	1	4	9	2	7	6	5	8
9	6	3	2	8	5	1	7	4
1	7	5	6	3	4	8	2	9
4	8	2	7	9	1	3	6	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/30

©2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CAPTAIN RICHARD PHILLIPS, HERO — Solution: 6 letters

M	T	D	Y	A	R	H	U	U	E	Ⓦ	Ⓔ	Ⓡ	Ⓒ	N
O	A	S	R	N	Z	H	M	S	G	T	U	E	O	M
M	O	E	T	I	N	E	I	S	D	S	C	T	M	I
B	B	Y	R	E	V	A	R	B	I	A	S	A	M	L
A	E	B	A	S	D	E	D	O	R	O	E	W	A	A
S	F	S	N	C	K	A	R	X	B	C	R	L	N	M
A	I	E	N	A	I	A	C	E	N	L	A	E	D	O
M	L	L	I	P	E	R	L	R	I	E	N	A	H	S
U	E	F	U	E	M	C	F	A	A	N	D	R	E	A
R	V	I	Q	D	N	U	O	A	B	O	A	R	D	L
P	I	R	A	T	E	S	J	S	C	A	B	B	I	E
H	D	N	E	K	W	G	L	T	N	O	M	R	E	V
Y	Y	V	A	N	S	A	G	M	A	R	I	A	H	A
E	R	E	D	N	E	R	R	U	S	N	I	P	E	R
E	G	A	T	S	O	H	A	L	T	R	U	I	S	T

© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com 6/1

Aboard, Africa, Altruist, Andrea, Bainbridge, Boston, Bravery, Cabbie, Cadets, Coast, Command, Crew, Danny, Deal, Dive, Driver, Escape, Heroism, Hostage, Jump, Ken, Lifeboat, Maersk Alabama, Mariah, Mombasa, Murphy, Navy, News, Ocean, Pirates, Quinn, Rescue, Reza, RHIB, Rifles, SEALs, Shane, Sniper, Somali, Surrender, Travel, Tugged, USS Boxer, Vermont, Water

Last Saturday's Answer: Wisdom

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 or 28, send $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA

WHATZIT Solution: Man in the moon

Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR SALE

TINIAN STEVEDORE COMPANY
$250,000 OR NEGOTIABLE
CONTACT: GILBERT MACARANAS
433-0130/3246/9255
SERIOUS INQUIRY ONLY

Make it a daily habit!
www.saipantribune.com

Manager Trainee

If you are a leader with a management background, we would like to meet you.

Minimum Qualifications:

- 2 years experience in managing 10 or more employees
- Must be computer proficient
- High school diploma
- Drivers license / transportation
- Excellent spoken and written
- English communication skills
- Problem solving skills
- Ability to meet weekly deadlines

Starting salary negotiable based on experience, and work history. Benefits include100% medical & dental, paid vacations, paid sick time, paid holidays, and more!

No calls please. Send resume' and salary history to:
drtojoanne@teleguam.net/drto@pticom.com

DIAL Rent-to-Own
250 Guerrero Dr. Suite 101
Tamuning, GU 96910

Commercial Refrigeration/Food Service Tech

Excetional trouble shooting skills/excellent customer service skills. Good communication/team member. Responsible for proper care/use/maintenance of equipment and supplies. Responsible for troubleshooting/repair full range CFS equipment ice/slush/ice cream machines, refrigeration units for freezers/drink. Minimum of 3 years experience in the food service industry. Ability to maintain, troubleshoot and repair all major kitchen equipment. Must have own tools.

EPA Certified

Benefits: Off-Island continuing education available. Great Compensation Package. Compensation based on experience.

Contact Person: Fely Roberto & Anthony Seragg - Tel. 235-5572

JWS **Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, Ltd.**
290 Tun Salas Street, Suite A, Tamuning, Gu 96913 • PH 646-7662 / FX 649-0053

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

momanon

© 2009 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
Guard files sex harassment suit vs principal. PAGE 3
2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5
There is still hope for nonimmigrant statu
joins Micronesia
OPINION METER
RELATED NEWS

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper
235- NEWS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$25
• 5-Liner	$35
• 3-Liner with picture	$45
• 5-Liner with picture	$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Howard scores 40 as Magic beat Cavs to make finals

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—The Orlando Magic can no longer be ignored. After 14 frustrating years, a team overlooked and ignored all season sent LeBron James home and is on its way to face Kobe Bryant in the NBA finals.

Dwight Howard dominated inside for 40 points, Rashard Lewis added 18 and the Magic, a team that can make 3-pointers drop from thin air, hit 12 in a 103-90 victory over James and the Cleveland Cavaliers in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals on Saturday night.

"Total domination," Lewis said. "He totally dominated. He carried us on his back tonight."

The Magic will be making their first finals appearance since 1995, one year before Shaquille O'Neal bolted as a free agent for Los Angeles, leaving this Florida franchise in ruins.

It's been a long, slow climb back, but Orlando has been rebuilt and will meet the Lakers on Thursday night at the Staples Center in Game 1.

Disney World vs. Disneyland.

"I just think this team all year long has shown an incredible amount of heart," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "This team just keeps fighting back."

Oh, and memo to Nike executives: It's time to break out the Howard puppet. LeBron's can go in summer storage.

For now, the only matchup between James and Lakers superstar Bryant will have to be limited to those cute TV commercials.

The Magic made them irrelevant.

With the city's most famous athlete, Tiger Woods, sitting courtside, Orlando made believers of all those who wondered if they were better than the Cavaliers, a team that won 66 games in the regular season, or the defending champion Boston Celtics.

The Magic made both disappear in the postseason.

James scored 25 in his worst game of the series, but the 24-year-old was magnificent for most of it, adding to a legacy still in its infancy. But the league MVP had to it alone, as Mo Williams lost his shooting touch and Cleveland's bench was badly outplayed by Orlando's reserves.

Afterward, James put on his headphones and stormed out of Amway Arena without saying a word.

He skipped the news conference and briskly walked down the corridor with two security guards as escorts. He plopped into a chair to be scanned for the team's charter plane ride, grabbed his bags and was gone—a special season ending in stunning disappointment.

Delonte West added 22 and Williams, who guaranteed the Cavs would come back and win the series, 17 for Cleveland, which went 0-5 in Orlando.

During the closing minutes, James was mocked by Orlando's crowd singing "M-V-P" as Howard shot free throws.

After Superman muscled underneath for a thunderous dunk with 2:21 left, the crowd moved into finals mode chanting, "Beat L.A.!"

Howard's one flaw has been his free-throw shooting, but he made 12 of 16 in Game 6.

The Magic's season hasn't been without its share of turmoil. Point guard Jameer Nelson sustained a season-ending shoulder injury in early February, a setback that at the time seemed as if it would prevent Orlando from doing anything special this year.

But general manager Otis Smith acquired guard Rafer Alston in a trade with Houston. Alston, a former playground legend, fit in perfectly. In the opening round against Philadelphia, the Magic lost the opener before rebounding and winning a close-out Game 6 on the road.

Then, following Game 5 of the Boston series, Howard called out Van Gundy for not getting him the ball enough and challenged his substitution patterns. The Magic shook off that spat, too, winning two straight, including Game 7 on Boston's parquet.

In the conference finals, they beat Cleveland with a devastating mix of inside power and outside firepower.

All year, the Cavaliers ended their pregame huddle the same way, with James leading them in a cheer he used with his high school team.

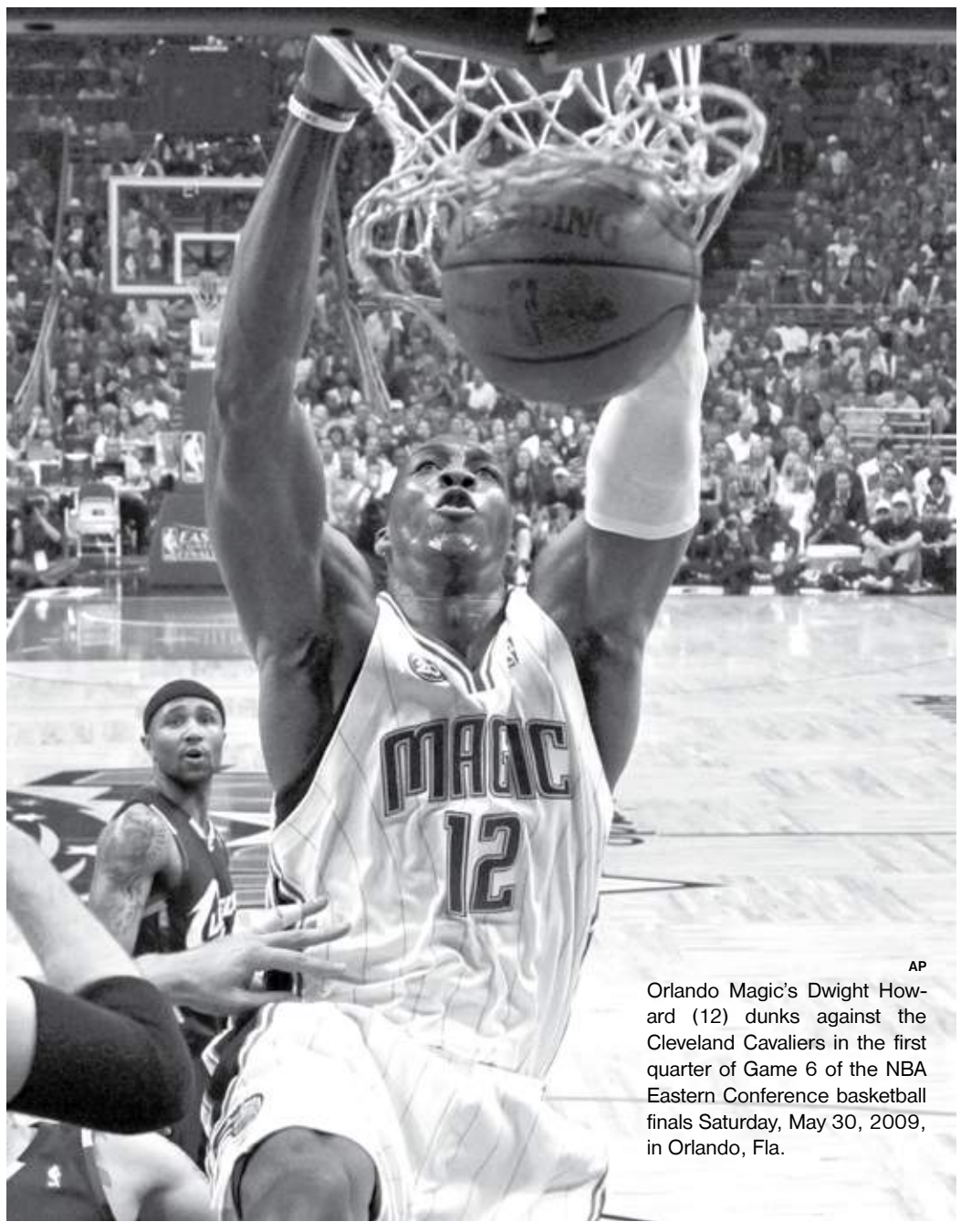
"One, two, three," James said.

"Hard work," they replied.

"Four, five, six," he offered.

"Championship," they yelled.

But there would be not title, and once again Cleveland fans will feel nothing but heartache as they wait for a team to end the city's 45-year championship drought.



AP

Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard (12) dunks against the Cleveland Cavaliers in the first quarter of Game 6 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals Saturday, May 30, 2009, in Orlando, Fla.

Tarnished Rose: Allegations could prove costly

CHICAGO (AP)—Right from the start, the message was crisp and direct—just like Derrick Rose's passes.

The Chicago Bulls were starting over and identifying their new leading man was as easy as flicking in a wide-open layup that afternoon in June. He was the guy slipping on jersey No. 1 after being drafted No. 1, the kid who grew up a few miles away and was now charged with turning around the franchise.

Rose delivered. But now, he's on the receiving end.

The explosive point guard who led the Bulls to the playoffs and won the Rookie of the Year award has come under a cloud cast by an NCAA investigation of major violations at Memphis during the only season he played there. That news was accompanied by media reports that someone at Chicago's Simeon Career Academy had temporarily changed a D to a C on his college transcript.

Yes, the past few days have been painful for Rose. And the sting might linger.

"This is going to be a multiyear story, and the problem for Derrick Rose is he's at the foundation of this," said Marc Ganis, president of Chicago-based consulting company Sports Corp. Ltd.

In a letter to Memphis, the NCAA says an unknown person took the SAT for a player—with his knowledge—and that the player used it to get admitted. The governing body says the athlete played for the Tigers in the 2007-08 season and the 2008 NCAA tournament. Only one person fits that description—Rose.

Compounding his difficulties were the media reports that Rose was one of four Simeon athletes with a grade that got bumped up for a month—long enough to be reflected on their transcripts. That maneuver was revealed in a report by the Chicago Public Schools' inspector general, which didn't identify the school or players who were involved.

Chicago Public Schools spokeswoman Monique Bond said the students involved probably didn't know about the grade change.

Memphis, meanwhile, is facing the possibility of having 38 wins and a run to the title game wiped off the books, which would make this the second time the school—and a program coached by the recently departed John Calipari—had to vacate a Final Four appearance.

Serena accuses opponent of cheating

PARIS (AP)—Serena Williams was sure the ball went off her opponent's arm, a no-no in tennis. The opponent, Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez, insisted the ball went off her racket. Williams accused Martinez Sanchez of "cheating." Martinez Sanchez thought that was a "stupid" thing for Williams to say.

Then consider that the point in question helped Martinez Sanchez win the first set of their French Open match Saturday. Oh, and that Williams had a coughing fit during a third-set changeover. All in all, what eventually became a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory for Williams stands as the latest example of the athlete/actress' penchant for theatrics.

"I'm, like, drama. And I don't want to be drama," a hoarse Williams said, straining to get the words out. "I'm like one of those girls on a reality show that has all the drama, and everyone in the house hates them because no matter what they do, like, drama follows them. I don't want to be that girl."

Perhaps. But the 2002 French Open champion, who dabbles in acting, sure seems to find herself in the middle of unique on-court situations.

Even Williams made passing reference Saturday to two episodes by naming the opponents, if not mentioning the details: a 2003 French Open semifinal loss marked by Justine Henin's gamesmanship and Williams' postmatch tears, and a 2004 U.S. Open quarterfinal loss to Jennifer Capriati that contained enough questionable officiating to prompt the introduction of replay reviews in the sport.

Here's what happened in Saturday's third-round match:

At 2-2 in the first set, Williams double-faulted to give a break point to Martinez Sanchez, a Spaniard who is ranked 43rd and never has reached the fourth round at a major. On the next point, Martinez Sanchez raced to the net behind a drop shot that brought Williams forward, too. Williams ran up and smacked a backhand right at Martinez Sanchez.

In what seemed to be an effort to protect herself, as much as to try to hit a volley, the left-handed Martinez Sanchez raised her racket, quick as could be. The ball ricocheted back—off her racket? off her arm? off both?—and past Williams. The point was awarded to Martinez Sanchez, giving her the game.

NBC, which televised the match, showed The Associated Press replays in which the ball appears to glance first off Martinez Sanchez's right forearm, then off her racket, before going over the net. Tennis rules say if a ball touches a player, the point is lost.

As the women headed to the ensuing changeover, Williams tried to say something to Martinez Sanchez, who kept walking. Then Williams spoke to the chair umpire, Emmanuel Joseph, saying, "I felt so bad. I didn't mean to hit her."

Repeatedly pointing to her own forearm, Williams told Joseph, "I don't know why you gave her the game. That's totally not cool."

"She better not come to the net again," Williams said.

At her postmatch news conference, Williams was asked whether she thought the ball touched Martinez Sanchez.

"I didn't 'think' the ball touched her—the ball did touch her, 100 percent, on her arm. The rules of tennis is when the ball hits your body, then it's out of play. You lose a point automatically," Williams said. "So the ball hit her body, and therefore, she should have lost the point—instead of cheating."

Could Martinez Sanchez have been unsure whether the ball made contact with her arm?

"I hit that ball rather hard," Williams said. "She knew that ball hit her."

A moment later, rolling her eyes, Williams added: "It was like, 'No way.' I would never do that. I've never done that. I've never sunk low."

When Williams' comments were relayed, Martinez Sanchez said: "I don't like to comment about this. It's a stupid comment."

Asked in both English and Spanish whether the ball hit her, she repeatedly said it went off her racket.

As for Williams' health, the 10-time Grand Slam singles champion said she's been fighting a cold.

"I thought," Williams said, "I was going to cough up a lung or something."

Talk about drama.

Price Ks 11 in first regular-season win

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—David Price struck out 11 to earn his first regular-season win in the majors, and Evan Longoria got his 55th RBI of the season to help the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Minnesota Twins 5-2 on Saturday.

Price (1-0), who started the season at Triple-A Durham and was recalled Monday, gave up one run, five hits and two walks over 5 2-3 innings in first start at Tropicana Field.

The first overall pick in the 2007 amateur draft was the winner out of the bullpen in Game 2 and picked up the Game 7 save in last year's AL championship series against Boston.

Longoria had an RBI single during a four-run third for the Rays, who have won two in a row after a season-high five-game skid.

Yankees 10, Indians 5

At Cleveland, CC Sabathia won in his return to Cleveland, and the Yankees got home runs from Jorge Posada and Nick Swisher in a victory over the Indians.

Sabathia (5-3) didn't allow a hit until the fifth and worked seven strong innings to beat his former team for the first time since signing a $161 million, seven-year contract with New York as a free agent in December.

Blue Jays 5, Red Sox 3

At Toronto, Alex Rios had four hits and drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, leading Brian Tallet and the Blue Jays to a victory over the Red Sox.

Toronto won its second straight after a nine-game losing streak and has now won six consecutive games at home, where it is 18-6 overall.

White Sox 5, Royals 3

At Kansas City, Mo., Jim Thome drove in two runs and Scott Podsednik and Alexei Ramirez delivered RBI singles in the top of the ninth to lead the White Sox to a victory over the Royals.

Chris Getz singled and Josh Fields walked with one out in the ninth off Juan Cruz (3-1). Podsednik then drove in the go-ahead run and Ramirez, with his third hit, made it 5-3 with another RBI hit.

Tigers 6, Orioles 3

At Baltimore, Clete Thomas hit two solo home runs to offset another shot by Baltimore's Luke Scott, and the Tigers ended the Orioles' five-game winning streak.

Thomas, who came in with two homers in 191 career at-bats, connected in the third and seventh innings. The second drive, off Matt Albers(notes) (0-2), put Detroit up 4-3 and enabled Justin Verlander (6-2) to win his sixth straight decision.

Rangers 14, Athletics 1

At Arlington, Texas, Brandon McCarthy recovered from a rocky first inning to pitch six strong innings, Hank Blalock and Marlon Byrd hit back-to-back homers, and the Rangers routed the Athletics.

McCarthy (5-2) was coming off his first major league shutout on May 24 against Houston, but he walked the game's first two batters before Matt Holliday grounded into a double play.

Mariners 4, Angels 3

At Anaheim, Calif., Jose Lopez hit a game-tying three-run homer in the ninth inning off closer Brian Fuentes and Yuniesky Betancourt delivered the go-ahead run with a sacrifice fly in the 10th, leading the Mariners to a victory over the Angels.

Wladimir Balentien led off the 10th with a double against Jose Arredondo (1-2), advanced on a sacrifice by Franklin Gutierrez and just beat the throw home from left fielder Gary Matthews Jr. after he caught Betancourt's flyball near the foul line. The Angels responded with an appeal play, but were turned down by plate umpire Paul Emmel.

Cubs 7, Dodgers 0

At Chicago, Ryan Dempster bounced back from his worst start of the season, pitching seven sharp innings for the Chicago Cubs in a victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Milton Bradley had three hits and Reed Johnson homered for the Cubs, who have won four of five since losing a season-worst eight straight games. Mike Fontenot had two extra-base hits and two RBIs.

Marlins 7, Mets 3

At New York, Jeremy Hermida homered and drove in four runs to help Josh Johnson improve to 6-0 in eight career starts against New York.

Jorge Cantu added two RBIs for the Marlins, who battered starter Tim Redding (0-2) in building a 7-1 lead by the fifth.

Diamondbacks 3, Braves 2, 11 innings

At Phoenix, Eric Byrnes singled home Mark Reynolds in the 11th inning to give Arizona a victory over Atlanta.

Reynolds opened the 11th with a ground-rule double off Jeff Bennett (2-2) and moved to third on Miguel Montero's sacrifice. With the infield playing in, Byrnes hit a dribbler up the middle.

Pirates 7, Astros 4

At Pittsburgh, Jeff Karstens pitched seven efficient innings to win for the first time in more than a month and Pittsburgh roughed up Houston lefty Wandy Rodriguez, snapping a three-game skid.

Eric Hinske went 3-for-3 and reached base four times for the Pirates, who had lost six of eight.

Brewers 9, Reds 5

At Milwaukee, Mike Cameron hit a go-ahead homer in a six-run fifth, waking up Milwaukee's latent offense in a victory over Cincinnati.

The Reds played without offensive standout Joey Votto, placed on the 15-day disabled list with stress-related issues believed to be linked to his ongoing struggles with an inner-ear infection—although club officials were hesitant to go into detail about the situation.

Phillies 9, Nationals 6

At Philadelphia, Ryan Howard hit his club-record eighth career grand slam and added a solo homer to lead Philadelphia over Washington.

Howard's slam moved him past Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt on the franchise list. It was the 19th multihomer game of Howard's career.

Rockies 8, Padres 7

At Denver, Garrett Atkins hit a tying single with two outs in the ninth inning and scored from first base when Brad Hawpe's bloop double got past diving center fielder Tony Gwynn Jr., giving Colorado a victory over San Diego.

It was the first blown save in 15 chances this season for Padres closer Heath Bell (2-1).

Cardinals 6, Giants 2

At San Francisco, Albert Pujols burst out of his power slump with two homers, and Chris Duncan drove in the go-ahead run with a two-out double in the seventh inning of the Cardinals' victory over the Giants.

Skip Schumaker's double drove home the tying run earlier in the seventh for the Cardinals, who overcame Chris Carpenter's first earned runs allowed this season for their eighth victory in 11 games.

Tim Clark takes lead into final round at Colonial

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—With $12.7 million in career earnings on the PGA Tour, Tim Clark has the dubious distinction of winning the most money without winning an event.

Now he's got a great chance to let someone else carry that burden.

Clark shot a 4-under 66 on Saturday in the third round of the Crowne Plaza Invitational to take a two-stroke lead into the final round.

The 33-year-old South African has been near the top of the leaderboard all week, then finally moved into first place all by himself with a birdie on 11. After a string of pars, he birdied 18 to dip to 17-under 193 and stretch his lead. That kind of finish also might be the momentum-extender to help him snap his 0-for-183 skid.

"It's tough to win out here; everyone knows it," said Clark, 63rd on the tour's career money list. "Hopefully, I do get that win sometime and it makes things easier. That's all I can hope for."

Reason to believe he can do it starts with his streak of eight straight rounds in the 60s at the Colonial Country Club. That includes all of last year's event, when he walked off the course tied for first but wound up second when Phil Mickelson birdied the final hole. It was the sixth runner-up finish of Clark's career; another came at the 2006 Masters.

That giant 0-fer is reason enough to question whether Clark can do it. There's also this nugget: Clark's only other 54-hole lead was at the 2008 St. Jude Classic. He opened that final round with a triple bogey, shot 6 over and finished 18th.

"It's never easy being the front-runner. It's a little bit tougher than coming from a few shots back," he said. "But I have led a few tournaments on the European tour going into the last round and have been able to shoot a good score. It's about staying calm and not getting too far ahead of yourself.

AP

Tim Clark watches the ball after hitting out of the bunker on the seventh green during the third round of the Colonial golf tournament, Saturday, May 30, 2009 in Fort Worth, Texas.

"This is a great course for doing that, too. You still have to come out and play good golf. If someone is going to catch me tomorrow they have to play really good, so that's good to know."

Well, that brings up another problem. Lots of people are playing really good this week.

Wind is the only defense this old course has against modern players and their technological advances, and there's yet to be anything more than a gentle breeze. Making things even easier, many greens are new and soaked by a rainy spring, leaving them nice and soft—just the way players like it.

Jason Day has capitalized with three straight rounds of 65, and Steve Marino shot a tournament-best 62 on Saturday, moving them into a tie for second place at 15 under with Steve Stricker (69).

Day and Marino also are winless on the PGA Tour. Both have extra incentive, too, from Marino's mom growing up in Fort Worth (she was in the gallery, as were a bunch of her childhood friends) to Day having moved to Fort Worth last year.

"My mind is in a really good spot right now," Day said.

Marino gave his mom and her friends plenty to shout about during the lowest round of his PGA Tour career. They were loudest on Nos. 11-13, when Marino put all of his approaches within 5 feet for "pretty stress-free birdies."

"I just felt really in control of everything," he said. "It was a great feeling."

Stricker faded after setting the 36-hole record (126). Playing with Clark, Stricker birdied the second hole and parred all the rest.

"I like the position I'm in," Stricker said. "For the most part, it's better to come from behind—unless it's someone like Tiger who's used to leading. Hopefully I can put up a good number tomorrow."

Vijay Singh got off track with consecutive bogeys early in his round. He finished at 69 and was alone at 13 under in his first appearance in the event since pulling out after criticizing the tournament for letting Annika Sorenstam in the field in '03.

Justin Leonard (64) and Woody Austin (67) were 12 under. One more shot behind were Sean O'Hair (70) and Paul Casey (66), who is playing his first tournament as No. 3 in the world ranking.

Mickelson isn't here after announcing last week that wife Amy is battling breast cancer. In her honor, and to raise awareness about the disease, the tournament went into "pink out" mode Saturday. Most players wore pink shirts, as did tournament staffers and many folks in the gallery.

CBS broadcaster David Feherty really got into it, going pink from head (cap, sunglasses and spray-painted beard) to toe (pants and shoes).

"It's pretty special to see," Leonard said. "I'm not usually a pink-shirt wearer, but it felt good to put it on. I wish it were under different circumstances."

Rollers sweep first round

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rollers drew a big game from Manny Matagolai to outclass Pink Buns, 60-49, during their match in the Division III of the 2009 UBA Summer Youth Basketball League last Wednesday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Matagolai fired a game-high 25 points to lead Rollers sweep of the first round of Division III. Rollers downed Kagman Sparks in their debut game, 49-43. Only three teams are entered in Division III (20-and-under players) and it has a double round robin format with the top finisher getting a bye in the playoffs. The last two placers will then duel in the first round of the playoffs for the right to face the No. 1 seeded squad in a best-of-three title series.

Matagolai scored Rollers' first nine points, while Luizi Reyes added 10 midway in the first half to give their team a 32-24 lead.

Matagolai started the second half with back-to-back triples and went on to score 11 more points to lift Rollers to an 11-point win.

Jesus Iguel led Pink Buns' losing cause, nailing 18 markers.

In Division 1, Savaly Talalemoto asserted his might inside to power Rollers A to a 53-35 win over Rollers B.

Talalemoto logged 21 points to lead Rollers A's demolition of Rollers B. Lawrence Deleon Guerrero also finished in double figures, notching 12 markers.

No Rollers B player scored in double figures, as the best that Bo Barry could do was to make eight points.

Rollers A held Rollers B to 10 points in the first half to take a commanding 30-10 lead. Rollers B never recovered from thereon.

In last Monday's games, Sonics swept Division I and II matches.

Sonics won the battle of sister teams in Division I (15-and-under), walloping Junior Sonics, 81-49.

Dae Min Jeon and Tristan Ecalnea proved to be a deadly combination for the Sonics, firing 14 and 16 points, respectively, in their debuts in the league.

In Division II (17-and-under), the Sonics also had an easy win, thumping the Lil' Saints, 76-42.

Lawrence Echon top-scored for the Sonics with 12 markers, while Luther Taylor and Novo Pepito added 12 points apiece.

Division I

Rollers A 53 – Talalemoto 21, Deleon Guerrero 12, Orejola 7, Baka 6, Palacios 2, Igitol 2, Norita 2, Vertudez 2.

Rollers B 35 – Bo. Barry 8, C. Barry 7, Escalada 7, Camacho 6, Tairon 3, Limes 2.

Scoring by halves: 30-10, 53-35.

Division II

Rollers 60 – Matagolai 25, Reyes 12, Namelo 8, Teregyo 4, A. Camacho 4, Tudela 2, Litulimar 2.

Pink Buns 49 – J. Iguel 18, Johnson 9, Rangamar 5, Lisua 5, Ogumoro 4, Camacho 4.

Scoring by halves: 32-24, 60-49.

MP

From Page 28

coached MP United 1, which also has Befferson and Aiferson Atan, John Taisacan, Austin Barcinas, Maxi Braig, and Tomoki Hatamata as members.

In the battle for third place, Paire FC won over Tan Holdings Club in a shootout, 2-0.

The boys' U13 had a double-round robin format in the playoffs.

MPU 1 debuted with a 2-0 win over MPU 1 and made it to the finals after downing Tan Holdings, 2-0. Tan Holdings won its first game of the day against IFC, 1-0 and then beat the same team on Alex Limes' goal to advance to the third place game.

MPU 3 whipped Matansa in its first game, 3-0, and gained a finals seat after slipping past Paire, 1-0.

Paire drew a bye in the first round after topping U13 in the regular season, but dropped to the loser's bracket after bowing to MP United 3. Paire recovered against Matansa, 1-0, and then defeated Tan Holdings to settle for third place.

In the girls' U13 finals, Matansa also blanked Independent Football Club, 3-0.

Doreen Ravell tallied two goals for Matansa, while Maria Bansil made one.

Other members of the team are Jessica Biqueras, Maria Dizon, Isabella Edgar, Chelsea Leskosek, Tiana Ranjo, Ann Victoria Ravell, Kimiko Tenorio, and Jace Pineda.

Games in U13 were played in the afternoon, as morning action in the youth football festival saw U6, U8, and U10 players participating in friendly matches.

The U6 division had nine teams divided into two pools. PFC I, MPU 2, Matansa G1, Tan Holdings, and MPU 3 were in Pool A, while Pool B had PFC 2, MPU 1, Matansa T1, and IFC.

Nine teams also played in U10 with PFC 1, IFC 2, Matansa G, Tan Holdings and MPU 1 in Pool A, and PFC 2 joining Matansa G1 and Matansa T1, and IFC 1 in Pool B.

U8 had 10 teams with Tan Holdings, PFC 2, MPU 2, Matansa T1, and IFC in Pool A and Matansa G1, MPU 1 and 2, and PFC 1 and 3 in Pool B.

TINIAN

From Page 28

teammate Lu after the former didn't drop a game the whole tournament. Lu, for his part, lost a game each to Saipan's Budhi Gurung, Jean Shi, and Young Soon Roh. Roh went on to settle for third place in the singles after finishing with a 6-8 win-loss card.

Roh actually finished with the same win-loss record as Cheng's and Robin Lu's, but salvaged third place on a tiebreak. Shi came in sixth overall after losing a total of 15 games.

In the doubles competition, the visitors finally got something to celebrate for after the women's tandem of Shi and Roh beat Ma and Liang, 3-2, in the finals.

A total of eight pairs competed in the doubles division—four each from Saipan and Tinian.

In the first round, Cheng and Su beat Saipan's Ahn Ik Hyun and Kang Kyung Min, 3-0. Steve Lim and Tae Won Park exacted revenge by beating Tinian's Alfred Yue and Bright Liu, 3-0. Ma and Liang, meanwhile, took out Gurung and Hisamitsu Hamamoto, 3-2.

Shi and Roh kicked off second round hostilities by defeating Cheng and Su, 3-0, while Ma and Liang joined them in the finals by sweeping Lim and Park, 3-0.

The 12th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament will be held at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium on Sept 12.

The Marianas Amateur Table Tennis Association holds ping-pong practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 7pm to 10pm at the Ada Gym. It is inviting everyone to practice with them at those given times.

SHIRLEY'S

From Page 28

game in the league.

After trailing by as much as 10 points in the first half, PTC had a chance to win the game in regulation when Ian Obnimaga drew a foul from Angeles with one second left in the game. Obnimaga missed the first charity and made the second one to send the game to first overtime.

Shirley's then had the opportunity to take the win in the first overtime, but Fradel Sedillo struggled to catch Angeles' pass and missed an open shot underneath the basket as time expired, forcing both teams to play for five more minutes.

The second overtime was a neck-and-neck battle until Angeles made crucial baskets to lift Shirley's to its first win. His two charities moved Shirley's within one, 98-99, with 1:24 left in the game.

The ensuing plays turned into a helter-skelter basketball with both teams committing errors. After a botched PTC play, Sedillo passed the ball to a sprinting Angeles to the right wing with the latter nailing a layup and giving the lead back to Shirley's 100-99, with 58 seconds left on the clock.

There were exchanges of errors, anew in the next plays with PTC committing the last one. Garon made a pitch to Taisacan, who could not hang on to the ball, as he had three Shirley's players chasing him at the frontcourt. The trio of Shirley's defenders clamped down on Taisacan and Sedillo successfully stole the possession.

Sedillo was later fouled, but missed two free throws. With two seconds left in the game, Garon collared the rebound off Sedillo's second miss and gave the leather to Lansang, who then threw a shot from the backcourt and missed.

In the second game, Advance X-Terminators pulled off a 91-63 upset against G4S, ending the latter's four-game win streak.

Advance held the league-leading G4S to nine first quarter points to take a big 30-9 lead and never looked back to improve to a 3-1 record.

Mike Olaitiman exploded for 31 points for Advance.

The X-Terminators aim to join G4S in the lead when they face PTC tonight in the last game for the first round. PTC and X-Terminators will meet in the second game at 8:30pm after the MBI-Shirley's tiff at 7pm.

First Game

Shirley's 100 – Pineda 29, Angeles 21, Catungal 14, Laxa 11, Merencilla 10, Drilon 5, Sarande 4, Pineda 2, Domingo 2, Galario 1, Macario 1.

PTC 99 – Lansang 32, Garon 25, Obnimaga 15, Sarmiento 11, Maglaya 5, Taisacan 5, Reyes 2, Camacho 2, Babauta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-14, 44-35, 63-55, 78-78, 91-91 (1OT), 100-99 (2OT).

Second Game

Advance 91 – Olaitiman 31, Ritual 18, Apostol 16, Daprosa 10, Adlawan 4, Gozon 4, Lontoc 2, Capillan 2, Libres 2.

G4S 63 – Sison 21, Guiab 18, Chavez 6, Basa 6, Banatasa 4, Soriano 4, Lariosa 2, Aquino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-9, 49-31, 74-45, 91-63.

ADVENTUROUS

From Page 28

Managaha Island was selected the No. 1 snorkeling spot at last year's Marine Diving Fair in Japan. Over 100 participants are already expected for the 1.5-kilometer race, which allows swimmers to use fins, snorkels, and wet suits or life jackets.

The event is sponsored by MVA and Community Sports Center Foundation of Japan.

"Whether you swim as a club, a family, or an individual, the flipper tournament will offer something new to experience in Saipan," said Tenorio. "There will be plenty of time to finish and safety personnel monitoring the event."

The race will start at 6:30am. An island-style breakfast and awards ceremony will be held following the race. The following awards will be given: Overall Male/Female (1st to 3rd), Junior Male/Female (10-and-under, 11-12 years old, 13-15 years old, 16-18 years old) Male/Female by age (19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60-and-over).

DFS Galleria will be providing a small gift and the following hotels are offering 15 percent discount at their restaurants to participants who show a tournament identification card: Mariana Resort & Spa, Aqua Resort Club Saipan, Palms Resort Saipan, Hafadai Beach Hotel, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Saipan Grand Hotel, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Saipan World Resort, and Coral Ocean Point Resort.

The cost is $45 for CNMI residents. The deadline to register with the MVA is June 19, 2009, during orientation at American Memorial Park on Saipan. Participants must be in good health with snorkeling or diving experience. Mask, snorkel, fins, and wetsuit or life jacket are required.

Co-sponsors of the race are Japan Marine Recreation Association, Japan Recreational Diving Industry Association, Japan Scuba Association, Japan Wetsuits Manufacturers Association, University Life Sport Education Society, Northern Mariana Diving Operators Association or NMDOA, Northwest Airlines, Continental Airlines, Pacific Subsea, and CNMI Department of Public Safety Boating Safety Unit.

For more information or to register, contact MVA at info@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	29	20	.592	-
Boston	28	22	.560	1 1/2
Toronto	29	23	.558	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	25	27	.481	5 1/2
Baltimore	23	27	.460	6 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	27	21	.563	-
Chicago	23	24	.489	3 1/2
Minnesota	24	27	.471	4 1/2
Kansas City	23	26	.469	4 1/2
Cleveland	21	30	.412	7 1/2

West Division

Texas	30	19	.612	-
Los Angeles	24	24	.500	5 1/2
Seattle	23	26	.469	7
Oakland	18	29	.383	11

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	27	20	.574	-
New York	27	21	.563	1/2
Atlanta	24	25	.490	4
Florida	23	27	.460	5 1/2
Washington	13	35	.271	14 1/2

Central Division

Milwaukee	29	20	.592	-
St. Louis	29	20	.592	-
Cincinnati	26	22	.542	2 1/2
Chicago	25	23	.521	3 1/2
Pittsburgh	22	27	.449	7
Houston	19	28	.404	9

West Division

Los Angeles	34	17	.667	-
San Francisco	24	24	.500	8 1/2
San Diego	24	25	.490	9
Arizona	22	28	.440	11 1/2
Colorado	20	28	.417	12 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Florida 7, N.Y. Mets 3
Arizona 3, Atlanta 2, 11 innings
Chicago Cubs 7, L.A. Dodgers 0
Pittsburgh 7, Houston 4
Milwaukee 9, Cincinnati 5
Philadelphia 9, Washington 6
Colorado 8, San Diego 7
St. Louis 6, San Francisco 2
Toronto 5, Boston 3
Tampa Bay 5, Minnesota 2
N.Y. Yankees 10, Cleveland 5
Detroit 6, Baltimore 3
Chicago White Sox 5, Kansas City 3
Texas 14, Oakland 1
Seattle 4, L.A. Angels 3, 10 innings

CROWNE PLAZA INVITATIONAL LEADERBOARD

THIRD ROUND

Tim Clark	63	64	66	193
Steve Marino	66	67	62	195
Jason Day	65	65	65	195
Steve Stricker	63	63	69	195
Vijay Singh	64	64	69	197
Justin Leonard	66	68	64	198
Woody Austin	63	68	67	198
Paul Casey	66	67	66	199
Sean O'Hair	65	64	70	199
Zach Johnson	69	67	64	200
Ian Poulter	66	69	65	200
Kevin Na	66	68	66	200
Ted Purdy	69	65	66	200
Luke Donald	68	65	67	200
Jeff Overton	69	67	65	201
Lucas Glover	70	65	66	201
Kevin Sutherland	66	67	68	201
Tim Herron	71	65	66	202
Harrison Frazar	67	69	66	202
John Senden	68	67	67	202
Jason Bohn	69	65	68	202
Ryan Palmer	69	63	70	202
Matt Kuchar	70	68	65	203
Tom Lehman	68	69	66	203
Charlie Wi	67	70	66	203
Stephen Ames	68	68	67	203
James Driscoll	69	64	70	203
David Toms	67	72	65	204
Kevin Streelman	68	70	66	204
Mark Wilson	67	71	66	204
Fredrik Jacobson	68	70	66	204
Nick O'Hern	69	69	66	204
Jim Furyk	68	69	67	204
Geoff Ogilvy	70	67	67	204
Hunter Mahan	69	67	68	204
Kenny Perry	64	72	68	204
Jason Dufner	69	71	65	205
Charley Hoffman	73	67	65	205
Bart Bryant	70	68	67	205
Anthony Kim	69	68	68	205
Stewart Cink	71	66	68	205
Bob Estes	71	66	68	205
James Nitties	67	68	70	205
Corey Pavin	71	69	66	206
Brandt Jobe	71	69	66	206
J.J. Henry	71	68	67	206
Rod Pampling	73	66	67	206
George McNeill	68	70	68	206
Scott Verplank	70	68	68	206
Rocco Mediate	67	70	69	206
Greg Owen	68	69	69	206
Tom Pernice Jr.	69	67	70	206
Chris DiMarco	69	71	67	207
Matt Bettencourt	69	70	68	207
Tommy Armour III	67	72	68	207
Derek Fathauer	68	69	70	207
Brian Davis	69	68	70	207
Danny Lee	69	67	71	207
Heath Slocum	69	71	68	208
Dudley Hart	74	66	68	208
Carl Pettersson	71	68	69	208
Adam Scott	68	71	69	208
Justin Rose	69	69	70	208
John Rollins	70	67	71	208
Mike Weir	69	67	72	208
Rory Sabbatini	71	69	69	209
Bo Van Pelt	71	69	69	209
Brian Gay	68	71	70	209
Ben Crane	71	68	70	209
Richard S. Johnson	71	69	70	210
Chez Reavie	72	68	70	210
John Merrick	71	68	71	210
Michael Bradley	70	67	73	210
Ryuji Imada	69	68	73	210
Ken Duke	71	69	71	211
Mark Brooks	71	69	72	212
Aron Price	67	72	73	212
Joe Ogilvie	67	73	73	213
Mark Calcavecchia	68	72	74	214

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

SHIRLEY'S STANDINGS

G4S	4	1
Advanced	3	1
Fiesta	3	2
PTC	1	3
MBI	1	3
Shirley's	1	3

The Week in Sports

One league ends, another begins

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Last week's major stories were about endings and beginnings.

Saipan Little League Baseball concluded its 2009 season with title matches in the Big League and Major League divisions. The exciting 2009 SLLB season had a fitting ending with Tanapag Falcons and Ol'Aces pulling off thrilling wins against the Fielders and Dragons, respectively.

The Falcons' Ben Cabrera and Ol'Aces' Virolanson Secharmidal connected on walk-off singles to power their respective teams to a title win in the Big League and Major League divisions.

Cabrera's walk-off single drove Taco Camacho home and lifted the Falcons to a 6-5 win over the Fielders, while Secharmidal's single brought Mike Muna at home plate for a similar 6-5 triumph.

Junior singles events and adults doubles kicked off the hostilities in the 2009 DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships. The first week of the two-weekend tournament produced six champions in the juniors division, namely Woo Suk Chang and Thea Minor in the 18-and-under division, Christian Miller and Negahr Rastguiy in the 13-and-under age group, and Emily Jones and Carl Dela Cruz in the 10-and-under category.

The doubles champions' list had the pairs of Jeff Race and Ji Hoon Heo; Miller and Rafael Jones; Matty Buenaventura and Ronnie Lacbayo; Jim and Mihoko Tuttle; and Lydia Tan and Loyola.

Last Sunday, the DFS netfest concluded with competitions in adults singles and juniors doubles. Complete results of matches were unavailable at press time.

After three years of hiatus, United Filipino Organization has brought its inter-organization caging back and kicked off the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League on May 24.

Two games were played in the opening day at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan with MDX-Chow Queen stunning defending champion Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense, 94-85, and Samahang Manggagawang Filipino/Quichocho Law Office walloping Cabalen-Jhems, 117-81.

The second day of competition in the UFO caging saw Cabalen suffering another beating at the hands of MDX, 82-107, and Bayani outlasting VisMinda, 99-91.

In other events, Slade "The Rage" Adelbai thwarted a Guam sweep of Saipan fighters after defeating Troy "The Destroyer" Munoz in Rites of Passage 7: Fists of Fury at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Adelbai connected on a flurry of punches against the Guamanian and the latter eventually tapped out with two minutes and eight second elapsed in the opening round.

Adelbai's victory gave Saipan a 1-4 record against Guam in the Rites of Passage. Three other Saipan bets, Jay "Taby" Muna, Derick "El Peligro" Rangamar, and Ton "Peskadot" Robert, lost to superior fighters from the U.S. territory.

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Mamiko Oshima-Berger found themselves on the winning end of the Run 4 Ron II 5K Race.

Kabiriel completed the 5-kilometer course in a time of 18:54, beating Tom Linden (19:08) and Caesar Danao (20:01).

Oshima-Berger finished the short run in 20:34 to outrace Dawn Hammermeister (25:15) and Suzy Kindel (25:55).

Two more athletes had a winning week with Emi Williams and Robert Talavera topping the 27th Annual Saipan Bowling Center May Masters Tournament.

Williams took the women's championship after knocking down 2,187 pins and posting an average of 182.25 in 12 games. She prevailed over 14 other female keglers.

In the men's May Masters division, Talavera bested 20 other participants after scoring 2,656 pinfalls.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the opening ceremony for the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan sing the Philippine national anthem.

MARK RABAGO

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, right, is congratulated by race organizer Ronald Villafria after winning Run 4 Ron II fundraiser.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jeane Bracken eyes her target during the girls' U14 singles game against Alina Ishikawa in the 2009 DFS Micronesian Tennis Championships at the PIC tennis courts.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

SIP's Badong Camacho, center, battles MDX's Jun Pantaleon, left, and Banjo Basila for the possession during their game in the opening day of the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

MARK RABAGO

Mamiko Oshima-Berger, right, is congratulated by race organizer Ronald Villafria after winning Run 4 Ron II fundraiser.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

May Masters winners Robert Talavera, left, and Emi Williams show the trophies and cash prizes they received during the awards ceremony for the 27th Annual Saipan Bowling Center May Masters Tournament.

MARK RABAGO

Slade "The Rage" Adelbai, seen here trying to move away from a headlock against Troy "The Destroyer" Munoz of Guam, gave Saipan its only win in four Saipan vs. Guam bouts in Rites of Passage 7: Fists of Fury last May 23 at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members and coaching staff of the Falcons pose for a group photo after beating the Fielders in the Big League finals.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ol'Aces celebrate at the mound after topping the San Antonio Dragons, 6-5, in the finals of the Major League division in the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball.

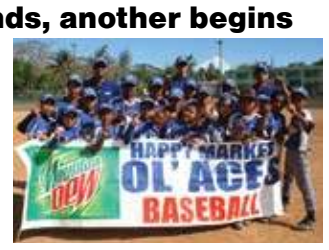
Howard scores 40 as Magic beat Cavs to make finals

The Orlando Magic can no longer be ignored. After 14 frustrating years, a team overlooked and ignored all season sent LeBron James home and is on its way to face Kobe Bryant in the NBA finals. 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

One league ends, another begins

Saipan Little League Baseball concluded its 2009 season with title matches in the Big League and Major League divisions. 27



MP United 1, Matansa win U13 finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MP United 1 and Matansa ruled the U13 division of the 2009 NMIFA Spring Youth Football League after shutting out separate foes in last Saturday's youth football festival at the Hopwood Junior High School Ballfield.

MP United 1 showed no love lost to sister team MP United 3, cruising to a 3-0 victory in their title match in the boys' U13 division.

Jordan Butcher had a pair of goals for MP United 1, while Dakota Hall added one to lift their team to a shutout win. Goalie Jack Sharer made several saves to foil MP United 3's repeated attempts to score and hand MP United 1 the perpetual championship trophy.

Youth player Marya Oestreich

See MP on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of MP United 1, left photo, hoist their championship trophy after ruling the boys' U13 division of the NMIFA youth league. Also in the photo is MP United 1 coach Marya Oestreich, standing right. Right photo shows Matansa flashing the No. 1 sign after winning the girls' U13 crown.

Tinian retains ping-pong crown

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian and Saipan ping-pong players pose before the start of the 11th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament held last May 23 at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Tinian's ping-pong club dominated the 11th Goodwill Table Tennis Tournament, winning the team and singles division in the competition held last May 23 at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The home team won 43 out of 64 matches against their opponents across the channel. Mark Ma and Luke Lu led the charge by winning all of their eight matches. The Tinian team also included former Saipan mainstay Su Yong Dong, Robin Lu, Liang Wei Bin, Alfred Yue, Bright Liu and Charlie Cheng.

In singles play, Ma edged

See TINIAN on Page 26

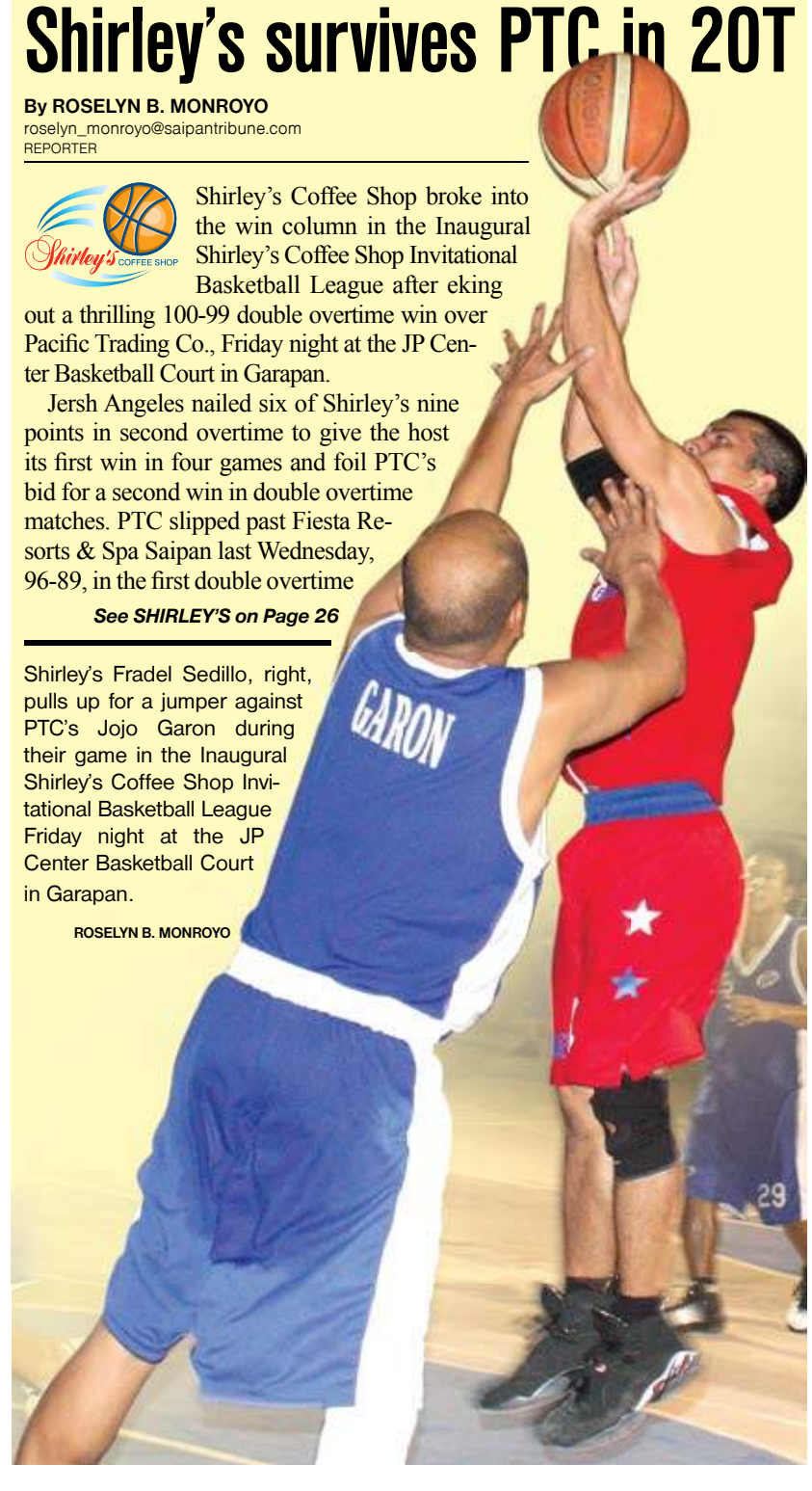
Shirley's survives PTC in 2OT

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop broke into the win column in the Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League after eking out a thrilling 100-99 double overtime win over Pacific Trading Co., Friday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

Jersh Angeles nailed six of Shirley's nine points in second overtime to give the host its first win in four games and foil PTC's bid for a second win in double overtime matches. PTC slipped past Fiesta Resorts & Spa Saipan last Wednesday, 96-89, in the first double overtime

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26



Shirley's Fradel Sedillo, right, pulls up for a jumper against PTC's Jojo Garon during their game in the Inaugural Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League Friday night at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Adventurous residents wanted

Organizers of the Inaugural Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament on June 20, 2009, are inviting adventurous residents of the Northern Mariana Islands to join international participants who have registered for the event.

The tournament course will run around Managaha Island, one of the premiere snorkeling spots in the Pacific.

"This is new event for the NMI, and we'd like to see some NMI participants join our off-island visitors," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "Aside from showing local support for the event, it's a great opportunity to explore the rich underwater world of Managaha for residents who have never snorkeled there before."

See ADVENTUROUS on Page 26

MARK RABAGO

The Inaugural Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament's course on June 20 will run around Managaha Island, one of the premiere snorkeling spots in the Pacific.